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ADOPTION OF DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS IN GROMYKO LETTER URGED

LD231012 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 23 Apr 80

["Important Initiative"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 23, TASS--TASS commentator Vladimir Teplov writes:

The Soviet Union came out with a new initiative aimed at giving a boost to the talks on restraining the arms race and on disarmament. In connection with the resolution of the 34th session of the U.N. General Assembly on declaring the 1980s a second decade of disarmament, Andrey Gromyko, Soviet minister of foreign affairs, sent a letter to the U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. The letter sets out the USSR's stand on concrete tasks the solution of which is essential, and on measures which should be implemented to achieve successful realization of this important resolution of the United Nations.

"The USSR, the letter says, considers it the main task of this decade to keep, consolidate and further develop the positive [as received] that has been achieved in the field of curbing the arms race in the seventies of our century and to secure realization of practical steps in this field".

Really, the past decade was characterized by a certain progress in the field of restraining the arms race. Barriers to deployment of weapons of mass destruction on the seabed and ocean floor, and to the military uses of means to modify the natural environment were raised. Bacteriological weapons were banned. In those years strategic arms limitation agreements were reached, and the realization of some measures to build confidence in Europe was started, and a system of negotiations on the problems of curbing the arms race took shape.

All these and other accords on the problem of disarmament, achieved in the 1970's, constitute an incontrovertible positive result of the first decade. At the same time they indicate that agreements and accords on real measures to solve the problem of disarmament are quite feasible provided there is goodwill on the part of the negotiators.

The Soviet address to the UNO calls for making more active the states' cooperation in curbing the arms race and in achieving further concrete measures in this field. This is particularly essential in present-day conditions when the international situation has become aggravated as a result of the USA's and some other NATO countries' actions aimed at undermining detente and spiralling up the arms race. In this connection the Soviet Union suggests that all the talks pertaining to the problem of disarmament, the talks which were started in recent years, were held on a bilateral or multilateral basis, and which now proved interrupted or postponed, be resumed and continued.

The initiative set out in Andrey Gromyko's letter proceeds from the USSR's consistent course towards strengthening international peace and security and from its conviction that an end to the arms race and a reduction of armaments are the major prerequisite to attain this goal. The Soviet Union's approach to these matters enjoys support among the public at large of the whole world, who come out with demands that progress in the field of disarmament be ensured. To act contrary to the demands means to expose one's aggressive hegemonistic aspirations. This is realized in the whites states [as received] as well. And it is not fortuitous that even now that the U.S. administration is busy fiercely pulling down the edifice of Soviet-U.S. relations that was built within the previous decade, individual representatives of the U.S. administration continue declaring U.S. adherence to the arms limitations policy. There are assurances to that effect, for example, in a whole number of speeches by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. However, what the world waits for is not assurances but real deeds. And the lack thereof exposes a disarmament advocate stance that the U.S. administration seeks to take.

Adoption of the Soviet proposals set out in Andrey Gromyko's letter to Kurt Waldheim, resumption and honest conduct of negotiations on the problems of disarmament would become a considerable step along the lines of strengthening peace and international security.

CSSR'S CHNOUPEK SUPPORTS SOVIET DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS

LD222248 Moscow TASS in English 2256 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Prague, April 22, TASS--"Czechoslovakia fully supports the Soviet Union's new proposals on military detente and regards them as an important factor of radical lessening of tensions in relations among states," said Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Bohuslav Chnoupek.

"At one with fraternal socialist countries, Czechoslovakia holds that effective talks can be started on such a complex problem as the limitation of medium-range nuclear missile weapons in Europe," he stressed. "It goes without saying that such talks can be started on condition that NATO abrogates its last year's decision on the deployment of new U.S. missiles in some West European countries or at least officially announces its deferment."

"We regard the continuation of the talks on disarmament as the most pressing task. As before, Czechoslovakia regards practical implementation of initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty states as a strong impetus for talks. This refers, above all, to convening a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe," the minister said.

He said that Czechoslovakia supports the proposal of First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party Edward Gierek on the holding in Warsaw of a conference on military detente and disarmament. Such a conference will, undoubtedly, have a great effect on the course of further talks.

"Czechoslovakia is interested in the solution of problems of disarmament. We participate immediately in the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, in the Geneva Disarmament Committee. Czechoslovakia declares for the ratification of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty and strongly disagrees with the intentions to put off the ratification of the treaty in the United States Congress."

"We are optimistic about future and see no reason for fear. The cause of detente is living. Its course is above all, the strength of the Soviet Union, of other fraternal socialist countries that declare resolutely against militaristic ambitions of irresponsible Western leaders," Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

GLAZUNOV ON SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM GDR

LD211944 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] The Soviet Union has withdrawn more troops from the German Democratic Republic. Our commentary has been prepared by Viktor Glazunov and this is what he writes:

The Soviet Union is as good as its word. Last October President Brezhnev announced the country's decision to unilaterally reduce its troop in central Europe and action on this decision began in December. Several troop contingents have already been withdrawn from the German Democratic Republic. Within a year the Soviet Union will withdraw up to 20,000 troops, a thousand tanks and other military hardware. Now what is behind this Soviet initiative? For years there have been efforts to achieve less military tension in Europe. The latest, 20th round of the Vienna talks for mutually reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe unfortunately has ended inconclusively. In short, the easing of military tension in Europe has been marking time. To break the stalemate the Soviet Union decided to set the example of moving from words to concrete deeds. And, as I said, it has already started withdrawing 20,000 servicemen as well as tanks and other hardware from central Europe.

Compare this with the latest Western proposals at the Vienna talks under which the United States is ready at the initial stage to withdraw only 13,000 troops from central Europe. It is significant that the Soviet Union is acting on its unilateral reduction decision despite the sharp aggravation of the situation that has been caused by the actions of the Washington administration. It is doing this in particular despite the dangerous decision that NATO adopted last December under Washington's pressure to site a new generation of American nuclear missiles in West Europe. Now isn't this a peaceful disposition and good will on the part of the Soviet Union? And isn't this the lack of honesty on the part of those who are making up stories about a Soviet threat? The Soviet Union opted for unilateral reduction in the hope that its initiative would be assessed properly by the Western governments, but unfortunately the NATO countries' actions are alarming. NATO's decision on missiles, for one, has undermined the foundations for talks on reducing medium-range missiles in Europe. The proposal to reduce them came from President Brezhnev.

The Soviet Union is still ready to negotiate the issue, providing of course that NATO cancels its missiles decision or at least officially suspends action on it. The Soviet Union firmly intends to stick to its principled stand. It is in favor of preserving and multiplying everything positive that was achieved in the field of lessening tension in the seventies. It is in favor of consolidating the fruits of detente rather than destroying them and in favor of scaling down the arms race rather than whipping it up.

CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS DEVELOPMENTS CITED; LIMITS URGED

LD211547 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Apr 80 p 3

["Military-Technical Review" by Candidate of Military Sciences Maj Gen Engr (Retd) V. Makarevskiy "From Foreign Press Materials": "In the Race for 'Superweapons'"]

[Text] Under cover of the deliberately inflated ballyhoo about the mythical "Soviet threat," military and political circles in the United States and other NATO countries are planning a further strategic arms buildup and sharply increasing production of various types of conventional weapons, with which, in particular, the gendarme "quick reaction" forces now being created in the United States will be equipped. In the constant race for "superweapons," in vain attempts to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and its allies, the Pentagon bosses are striving to create more and more complex and destructive attack systems. Here, as foreign military observers note, conventional weapons are becoming increasingly unconventional, so to speak, and are approaching mass destruction weapons in some of their combat properties. What does this mean? What results do they have in mind in improving conventional types of weapons?

Far more attention has been devoted to the development of conventional types of weapons abroad in the last 10 years than in previous years. The utilization of the latest achievements of science and technology in this sphere of military affairs has meant that the destructive properties and combat effectiveness of conventional fire systems have increased sharply. In a number of cases, as certain foreign military specialists stress, it has become quite possible to use them to resolve many combat tasks which until recently were entrusted only to tactical nuclear weapons.

Take, for instance, the American BLU-82 7-ton aerial bomb. It is equipped with a new explosive which is a gelatinous mass of ammonium nitrate, aluminum powder and a binder. Detonation take place approximately 1 meter from the ground on two sides simultaneously. The blast wave thus formed is capable, the press reports, of causing severe destruction within a radius of about 500 meters from the point of explosion. This is entirely comparable with the action of tactical nuclear warheads.

Foreign specialists assert that bulk explosion ammunition [boyepripasy obyemnogo vzryva], which uses special gas and air mixtures, possesses equally powerful destructive properties. This is sometimes called fuel [toplivnyee] ammunition. According to the foreign press, explosives of this kind can include the fuel bases methylacetylene, propadiene and propane with added butane, ethylene, and also the vapors of various types of liquid fuel. One such, for instance, is the American CBU-55 aerial cluster [kassetta], in the form of a standard 500-pound (225 kg) bomb. It contains about 11 kg of fuel mixture in three canisters. When the canister hits the ground an aerosol cloud is formed, about 15 meters in diameter and 2-3 meters thick. After a delay of between a few tenths of a second and a few seconds, this is detonated by a special fuse, whereupon overpressure equal to 21 kg per square centimeter is created. A powerful blast wave is formed which even strong ferroconcrete construction cannot withstand. Not for nothing, not without good reason do many foreign specialists assign bulk explosion missile, artillery and aircraft ammunition to the category of mass destruction weapons when used in bulk.

The search for more and more powerful chemical explosives is taking place on a wide front. Plastic high explosives, which are considerably more powerful than ordinary TNT, are used to arm artillery shells and mines in NATO countries' armies. Moreover ammunition with this kind of "filling" is becoming universal in nature: It has an equally significant armor-piercing and explosive effect.

Various other explosive compounds and mixtures are being sought, including even using metallic uranium. It is reported, for instance, that American ground forces are to adopt artillery shells with uranium armor-piercing cores. Newspapers have also written about experiments in the manufacture of uranium darts [strela] instead of bullets for small arms ammunition. The particular effect of a uranium cap or tip is that on impact with steel armor it instantly heats up to a very high temperature because of the quasi-explosive reaction of oxidation of the heated uranium by atmospheric oxygen. As a result, observers assert, even a uranium dart 11mm long and 2.5mm in diameter can pierce armor up to 55mm thick, making a hole several times bigger than its own diameter.

The second avenue for increasing the combat effectiveness of conventional means of destruction which is being developed intensively abroad is that of improving their design. Here the greatest hopes are pinned on ammunition of the cluster type, with prefabricated contact elements. These make it possible to increase sharply--by dozens of times--the area of destruction. Existing cluster ammunition, the foreign press notes, insures zones of destruction of life over an area measured in tens or hundreds of hectares.

A fighter-bomber, the F-4 Phantom for instance, carrying 11 CBU-54B clusters is capable of creating a zone of destruction of life over an area of about 1.5 square km. A B-52 bomber dropping 66 cluster bombs spreads lethal fragments over an area of about 8 square km. Aerial cluster bombs can contain tens and hundreds of units of ammunition of various types: high explosive fragmentation, armor-piercing incendiary and so forth. For instance, the antipersonnel [sharikovaya] bomb used widely by American troops in Vietnam is a 35cm cylinder with a diameter of 7.5cm, containing 250 1-gram steel ball bearings. Fighter-bombers can carry up to 1,000 cylinders, packed in clusters. According to American specialists' calculations, the destructive effect of such a bomb load is equivalent to the firepower of 13,160 rifles firing one magazine of bullets each.

Cluster ammunition is now being created abroad for artillery, salvo fire systems and guided tactical missiles too. Foreign specialists conclude, for instance, that the effectiveness of cluster ammunition for salvo fire systems is five or more times greater than that of convention high-explosive fragmentation shells. A cluster warhead containing 15 prefabricated contact elements has been developed in the United States for Lance tactical missiles. Each element is equipped with an armor-piercing warhead of the shaped-charge type and with an infrared guidance system. According to the designers' calculations, one Lance missile will be able to hit 15 tanks simultaneously at a distance of about 100 km, if the strike is made against a number of vehicles.

The combat effectiveness of certain conventional types of fire weapons is also increasing now, foreign specialists stress, by means of increased target-hitting accuracy. It is a question of equipping various kinds of ammunition-artillery shells and aerial bombs--with laser guidance systems. For instance, it has been reported in the press that American 127, 155 and 203 km caliber shells equipped with such systems, fired at moving targets at a distance of about 12 km, diverged by not more than a meter from the point of illumination by the laser beam. Certain high-ranking Pentagon spokesmen were eager to state in this connection that the appearance of accurately guided shells has "brought military hardware to the threshold of a real revolution in the sphere of conventional arms." The Pentagon is dreaming of obtaining the next "superweapon."

Having already stockpiled vast reserves of mass destruction weapons, the American imperialists are continuing to build up their military strength using the modern achievements of science and technology and are sharply stepping up the race in all types of arms. Here a considerable place is assigned to "conventional weapons systems"--systems which, even since the war, have ended more than 10 million lives in wars and military conflicts unleashed by imperialists.

The Soviet Union, consistently and purposefully fighting for an end to the arms race and for disarmament, has repeatedly put forward the proposal to ban the creation of new types of conventional weapons with great destructive force. Such a proposal, in particular, was submitted at the UN General Assembly special session in 1978. In September 1979 a UN conference took place with the participation of representatives of 70 countries, which was to elaborate an international agreement to ban or at least limit the combat use of new types of conventional weapons. However, because of the stance of certain imperialist states, above all the United States, and also China, the conference did not yield concrete results.

At the same time, refusal to resolve or even delay in resolving this task could lead to the creation and introduction of more and more destructive conventional weapons systems, taking on a massive nature and becoming out of control. Such a turn of events is fraught with serious danger for all mankind.

ZILIN CONSIDERS ASPECTS OF UPCOMING PARIS CP MEETING

AU221342 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Apr 80 p 6

[Article by Yuriy Zilin, APN: "A Few Answers to the Topical Questions of the Communist Movement: Before the Paris Meeting"; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Excerpts] AS IS KNOWN, THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY [PCF] AND THE PZPR HAVE INVITED THE COMMUNIST AND WORKERS PARTIES OF ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO ATTEND A MEETING IN PARIS ON 28 AND 29 APRIL 1980. THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION WAS FORMULATED BRIEFLY: "FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT."

Naturally this initiative has prompted great interest, both among the invited parties and among the broader public. It is also natural that the reaction is different. Most European parties have welcomed the PCF's and PZPR's initiative.

It would be pointless to forecast now what will be said at this meeting, what its results will be and so forth. We will learn all this at the appropriate time. It is far more to the point to indicate a few problems, on which we can already reflect today.

Was the Date Chosen Aptly?

First we have the topic of the conference. In the almost 35 years since the end of World War II the best thinkers of mankind have had this topic at heart. It has been discussed time and again, and undoubtedly it will continue to be discussed for a long time to come. The question of war and peace has always been and remains the most acute problem of the times; and, deplorably, in the last few months it has become YET MORE PRESSING.

From this there follows the answer to the second question: Was the date of convening the conference aptly chosen? Here it is perhaps possible to state merely that IT IS NEVER TOO SOON TO EXCHANGE OPINIONS ON WHAT METHODS AND WHAT MEANS ONE CAN USE TO ESCALATE THE FIGHT FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT. It is never too early to call upon other forces, too, to join this fight. It would be worse to deal with this too late.

And then the third question: the composition of the participants in the Paris meeting. According to current information, it will not be attended by all European communist and workers parties, but BY ALMOST ALL OF THEM, AND THIS INCLUDES BOTH THE CAPITALIST AND THE SOCIALIST PART OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT.

Old Stories about a "Center"

Obviously, there are inevitably various speculations about this subject among the circles in other political parties and mass communications media that maintain anti-communist positions. But here we must ask ourselves: When did such things occur without some speculations?

Claims are sure to crop up that the presence of representatives of the West European communist parties at this meeting will signify "stepping into line with Moscow." But this argument is as unfounded as was the claim that the absence of certain parties would, for instance, mean "stepping into line" with some of the nonaligned parties. Surely each party determines its own positions quite independently and autonomously, and not only in its own country, but also at an international meeting.

The claim that organizing the meeting signifies an attempt to create a kind of "center" in the communist movement is nothing but a reiteration of old stories in modern times. There was as much provocative talk on this topic as there were USSR-attended international meetings during the last two decades.

There is also the opinion that the time chosen for organizing the meeting is unsuitable, because there are certain disagreements in the communist movement. Certainly, this opinion deserves attention. But here, too, let us recall the experience acquired throughout the entire modern history of the communist movement. Which of the multilateral communist meetings was without disagreements? There were disagreements, the communists' enemies tried to exploit them for their own ends, but ALL THESE INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS DID NOT THEMSELVES DEEPEN THE DISAGREEMENTS; THEY HELPED BRING THE STANDS CLOSER AND THEY HELPED ADOPT THE ACTION PROGRAM AGREED ON.

Not Sectarianism, But an Expression of Responsibility

Another problem is mentioned, too: Since the socialist and social-democratic parties will not be represented at the conference, the danger will arise that this could prevent the establishment of cooperation between them and the communists. What can be said about this problem? It is well known that the CPSU is developing contacts with socialist and social-democratic parties, and this is not the first year, either. Why should the Paris meeting create some kind of barrier on this path?

The international communist movement cannot abandon the principle that it must act as an independent force in the world arena--not under any circumstances. AND THIS IS ABSOLUTELY NOT AN EXPRESSION OF SECTARIANISM. IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT'S OWN RESPONSIBILITY, ACTIVITY AND INITIATIVE.

The Specific Problems of the Fight for Peace in Europe

Let us consider this problem from another aspect.

Could the process of detente be preserved and consolidated without the socialist countries, in which the communist parties are the ruling parties? Scarcely anybody, and this includes both the social-democratic and the conservative circles, could claim this. Can one preserve and consolidate the process without the activity of the workers movement of the capitalist countries and their vanguard--the communist parties? Perhaps some people in the West, on one side of the Atlantic or the other, would like to push through such an approach. But, as clearly follows from the CPSU's documents, it will never agree to any such thing.

And finally there is the opinion that the problem of the fight for peace and disarmament does not concern Europe alone and thus, allegedly, it cannot concern the European parties alone.

This is true. But in this instance, too, one must ask: Does this mean that somebody is proposing to hold an international meeting as a counter-idea to the Paris meeting? Obviously not. Does this mean that Europe has no specific problems of its own in the process of detente, even though this process is indivisible? Obviously it does have such specific problems. Or is there the danger that the European parties will meddle in the competence of fraternal parties on other continents? Not at all; here, too, there is no reason to be concerned, and nobody outside the European Continent is showing such concern.

The Operational Nature of the Meeting

And finally the fifth problem: The method of preparing and organizing the Paris meeting. Certain parties voiced long ago the opinion that IN CASE OF NEED IT IS NECESSARY TO ORGANIZE A MEETING OPERATIVELY, WITHOUT ADOPTING ANY EXTENSIVE DOCUMENT. It is quite obvious that in this instance it is exactly this form of organizing an international meeting that was chosen.

These are some of the problems that are now being discussed in the European communist movement, as well as outside its framework, in connection with the initiative of the French and Polish communists.

REPORTS ON COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE

DKP Decision To Attend

LD161047 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Answers to Invitation"]

[Text] Bonn, 9 April--The German Communist Party [DKP] will take part in the meeting of European communist and workers parties for peace and disarmament, to be held 28-29 April in Paris, the DKP Board Presidium stated today. DKP Chairman Herbert Mies has sent replies to the French Communist Party and PZPR welcoming the initiative of convening the Paris meeting. The DKP, H. Mies' messages say, attaches great importance to this meeting since it will help to strengthen the struggle against the arms race, the deployment of the new American nuclear missiles in the heart of Europe and the attempts by certain circles to undermine detente's successes through a policy of boycotts and a reversion to the course of confrontation. This meeting accords with the interests of peace, security and cooperation among peoples.

Swedish Party Chief on Meeting

LD210647 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 80 p 5

[TASS report: "Support for Initiative"]

[Text] Stockholm, 14 April--R. Hagel, chairman of the Swedish Workers Party--Communists Directorate, has noted the great importance of the upcoming Paris meeting of European communist and workers parties for peace and disarmament. The attempts by certain circles to revive the cold war spirit must be resolutely opposed, and that is communists' special responsibility, he stressed in an interview with NORRSKENSLFLAMMAN. The Swedish Workers Party--Communists entirely supports the initiative of the French Communist Party and PZPR, which suggested holding this meeting. We regard this forum as a contribution to the struggle for peace and we intend to make every effort to acquaint our country's public with its results, Hagel said.

RESPONSE TO COMMUNIST PARTIES' OBJECTIONS TO PARIS PARLEY

LD221351 Paris LE MONDE in French 18 Apr 80 p 7

[Daniel Vernet dispatch: "APN Tries to Answer Objections of Parties Which Refuse To Attend European CP conference"]

[Text] Moscow--In a commentary for foreign consumption APN has just, for the first time, taken a stance on the absence of some communist parties which have refused to take part in the Paris conference organized by the PCF and PZPR to be held 28-29 April. APN does not, however, name these parties and so far the Soviet press has merely mentioned the League of Communists of Yugoslavia's abstention.

The Soviets answer the various objections raised notably by the Italian Communist Party [PCI] and Spanish Communist Party [PCE]. It is alleged that the participants in the Paris conference would be aligning with Moscow, but this assertion, the APN commentator writes, is an unfounded as it would be to say that the absent parties "are aligning, say, with Madrid." Whenever a communist conference is held, there is unfounded talk of setting up a "center" for the international workers movement.

It has also been said that the meeting could not take place because of differences of opinion among the parties. An international meeting is not intended to deepen differences but to define common stances and coordinate actions. It is alleged, APN added, that the socialist or social democratic parties should be represented at such a conference. However, those parties held a meeting in Vienna on questions of disarmament and peace to which the communists were not invited: "Under no pretext can the international communist movement abandon its positions as an independent force on the international scene. This has nothing to do with sectarianism, it is rather an awareness of our own responsibility."

Finally, the last argument to which the APN commentator replied is that the defense of peace should not be limited to Europe. This is probably a reference to the differences of opinion which the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has sparked off within the international communist movement, but that country is never named. "Does this mean that Europe does not have specific problems because detente is indivisible? No," the commentator replied. "Moreover nobody has suggested holding a broader international conference in place of the Paris meeting."

After answering these various objections the article indicates that it is "difficult to predict what will be said at the Paris meeting and the results which will be achieved." However, we [presumably LE MONDE] believe that the text of the final resolution which the participants will be called on to adopt is already circulating among the European communist parties.

PRAVDA REVIEWS BLOC'S PEACE POLICY, U.S. AGGRESSIVENESS

ID211459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 80 p 4

[Article by Boris Averchenko: "International Review"]

[Excerpt] The socialist countries, welded together by common ideals and goals, are solving the increasingly complex and large-scale tasks of building a new society. As in any collaborative undertaking, they are naturally encountering certain difficulties, shortcomings and omissions. Also a factor is the influence of various external factors, not least the aggravation of the world economic situation. But, through their joint efforts, the fraternal countries are surmounting the difficulties and problems. They have for this purpose the proven, reliable path of socialist economic integration.

The achievements of the socialist countries and their dynamic onward development are particularly graphic against the background of the situation in the capitalist world, rocked by contradictions and a further growth of crisis phenomena. The imperialists and their myrmidons are going all out to whitewash and embellish the "capitalist paradise" and, with the help of slander and misinformation, to present a distorted picture of life in socialist states by exaggerating the slightest difficulties which occur in the complex business of creating the new world. They are trying to counterpose individual elements of some socialist states' national economic experience and economic strategy to the policy of other states and drive a wedge between them, and they are "predicting" the failure of the cooperative integration programs adopted by the CEMA countries. But all these fabrications are built on sand. Suffice it to cite the following fact. The CEMA Secretariat has reported that the implementation of measures stipulated in the long-term targeted cooperation program is guaranteed by specific agreements between the interested CEMA countries. Some 52 of these agreements had already been signed by 1 March 1980. The coordination of plans among the fraternal states for 1981-1985 is being successfully completed.

In all spheres of political, economic and cultural life the socialist countries act together, deriving from mutual support new strength for the solution of national and international tasks.

The Main Thing Is To Consolidate Peace

The socialist community states are pursuing a coordinated Leninist foreign policy. Thanks to their persistent efforts many important decisions were made in the seventies in the sphere of strengthening peace and curbing the arms race.

But this development of events was not to the liking of imperialist reaction, above all the U.S. ruling circles who were reluctant to acknowledge the new realities in the world and began to artificially fuel international tension and provoke complications and conflicts in different regions. But even in these complex conditions the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy remains principled and consistent. The CPSU and Soviet Government are doing all they can to prevent the forces of imperialist reaction from taking the world back to the cold war days.

A new and important step in this direction is our country's proposals on the tasks of the second decade of disarmament expounded the other day in the USSR foreign minister's letter to the UN secretary general.

The Soviet Union, the document points out, regards as the chief tasks of this decade the preservation, consolidation and further development of the positive achievements in the sphere of curbing the arms race in the seventies and the implementation of practical steps in this sphere. The eighties must be years of significant advance in the struggle to ensure lasting peace.

The principled position of the USSR is unchanged: On agreement with other states it is prepared to limit and prohibit on a reciprocal basis any type of weapon, of course without prejudicing anyone's security, on terms of the full reciprocity of the states possessing the corresponding weapons. The Soviet Union advocates talks on a wide range of questions.

The progressive world public showed an interest in the Soviet initiative. International commentators note that the USSR, along with its friends and allies, not only does not want to forfeit any of the positive changes achieved in the world arena in the seventies but deems it necessary to move ahead by actively urging peace-loving states to make the eighties a second decade of disarmament through their concrete practical steps.

Importance is now attahced to every practical step serving the cause of peace, continuation of detente and easing of tension. It is no accident that there is growing support among the world public for the initiative put forward at the Eighth PZPR Congress--developing the joint proposals of the Warsaw Pact states--on holding in the Polish capital a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

The Polish people, who experienced the tragedy of World War II and lost 6 million of their sons and daughters (22 percent of the country's population), know the price of a peaceful life and have the moral right to warn the world against the terrible consequences of cranking up the arms race. In the West there are still plenty of malicious neofascist propagandists who try to obscure the Hitlerites' monstrous crimes in Poland and to shield war criminals who have eluded punishment. But their efforts can only arouse the contempt of honest people. It is well known that when they occupied Poland the Hitlerites embarked on the mass genocide of its people. They covered the country with a network of concentration camps and created "death factories" such as Auschwitz, Majdanek and Treblinka. In these camps more than 3.5 million Poles died at the hands of the death squads. For many years April has been marked in Poland as national remembrance month. "All over the country rallies and demonstrations take place during this period at monuments to the victims of fascism. At them people resolutely state: 'No!' to anything that might lead to a repetition of the grievious past. 'No!' to nuclear missiles. 'No!' to war," TRYBUNA LUDU writes.

Reckless Course

Meanwhile the chief citadel of imperialism--the United States--is continuing to brandish the stick, threatening to punish countries and peoples that "disobey" Washington's diktat. Having severed diplomatic relations with Iran and announced the introduction of an economic and trade embargo against the young Islamic republic, the White House immediately started working on its allies, demanding that they take the same adventurist steps. It is doing so with gendarme crudeness, without considering either the international prestige or the opinion of its partners. U.S. President J. Carter has even dictated to them a timetable for joining in his anti-Iranian actions.

However, the West European capitals, as well as Tokyo, are in no hurry to follow Washington's example, which is generating a renewed outburst of fury in the White House. [paragraph continues]

"What we need is not words but real solidarity from the allies," declared presidential aide Z. Brzezinski, well known for his bad manners, essentially admitting that the U.S. partners are showing no enthusiasm for following in America's footsteps.

International commentators are drawing attention to the fact that by deliberately stepping up tension and circulating fantasies about the "Soviet threat" the White House hopes to secure from its allies "unquestioning obedience" and at the same time to strengthen the dominant position of U.S. imperialism, and especially the American military-industrial complex, in the Western world. The language of threats and blackmail is becoming the present American administration's main method of foreign policy activity.

As for its partners' interests, observers note, they essentially mean nothing to Washington. However, the Western countries certainly do not want to be cut off from oil from Iran and other regions of the Persian Gulf and Near East, which accounts for 60-80 percent of their requirements for the extremely valuable raw material. It is not hard to see that the slogans of the "common interests" of Western countries and the United States being proclaimed from the Capitol in actual fact pursue the aim of limiting the West European countries' foreign policy independence and economic potential and at the same time enabling the American monopolies to "surreptitiously" squeeze into the background their competitors in the world market.

The course pursued by the White House is causing serious concern among the U.S. allies. It is condemned by wide circles of the world public. Criticism of the reckless American actions is one of the main themes in the West European press at the moment. "The United States is demanding immediate obedience," L'HUMANITE writes; "that is a policy of diktat--there is no other word for it." Carter's imperial ambitions, which jeopardize peace, must be rebuffed, the newspaper urges. Many sober-minded Western statesmen and politicians are realizing more and more clearly that by its aggressive course Washington is pushing mankind toward a nuclear-missile war. This course is aimed against detente, to which there is no alternative.

But the earth's peoples know how to place a barrier in the way of the champions of confrontation and military adventures. They are capable of defending and protecting peace. No one is permitted to reverse the course of history!

The peoples' national liberation struggle against imperialism and for freedom, independence and social progress is mounting under the impact of the lifegiving ideas of Lenin and Great October and under the influence of the inspiring example of world socialism. This week world public attention has been attracted by the fourth conference of heads of state of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, which has just ended in Tripoli. Its participants, pointing to the dangerous nature of the Camp David agreements, stated with the utmost determination that they will firmly follow the policy of steadfastness and resistance to the intrigues of American imperialism and Zionism--the Arab peoples' main enemies. They advocated further developing and strengthening their relations with the socialist community countries headed by the USSR.

The long heroic struggle waged by the Zimbabwe people under the leadership of the Patriotic Front for the elimination of the racist setup and for their motherland's freedom and independence has culminated in conclusive victory. At precisely midnight 18 April the flag of the new independence sovereign state of Zimbabwe was raised over Salisbury.

Along with the fraternal countries, the Soviet Union pits against imperialism's aggressive course its own inexorable determination to strengthen unity and cohesion in the struggle for the common aims. This is the reliable guarantee of further successes for our joint policy of peace.

FALIN DISCUSSES OIL PROBLEM, IRAN, AFGHANISTAN

DW211426 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 19/20 Apr 80 p 10

[Eric Peschler interview with Valentine Falin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department and former Soviet ambassador to the FRG; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] SZ: Tensions between East and West are growing alarmingly and this increases fears in East and West of another war. Are skeptics who as early as 10 years ago predicted distribution struggles as well as oil wars in the eighties because of declining raw material resources, actually going to be right? Is this how we have to view the explosive situation in the Middle East?

Falin: There will always be skeptics as there always have been. I am sure, however, that the current tensions in international relations are by no means objectively unavoidable. It is not as if there is no other choice. I think that experiences of the seventies have shown that there are other solutions, other options. In the field of energy and raw materials supply, the objective interests of states require cooperation and above all a reasonable utilization of what we get from earth. In fact, roughly one third of the world's total supply of energy--at least of oil--as well as a substantial portion of its industrial production is being used for military instead of productive purposes. It is paradoxical that in the 20th century alone more energy and more raw materials are being squandered than during the entire history of mankind. We can and must not continue like this.

SZ: In the past few weeks Moscow has given assurances time and again that it did not intend to move toward the Persian Gulf so as to cut off the West from its oil supply and to take the Mideast oil wells for itself. It had enough oil itself and was even able to export oil, it was said. This assertion, however, is confronted by the fact that the Soviet oil wells on the Caspian Sea will be exhausted before long and that in view of the increasing energy demand the Soviet Union will then become dependent on oil from abroad. Where will it get it from?

Falin: The Soviet Union's energy sources are sufficient. There is no immediate threat that we will not be able to meet our needs from our own sources. Such a danger exists only in reports fabricated by the CIA and other American institutions. Naturally we are interested in buying some energy products in other countries as long as this is more economical. Our problem is not that we do not possess sources of energy. Our problem is the price we must pay for the production of oil. In fact, our most important resources at present are in Siberia; in order to produce 1 ton of Siberian oil we generally must invest five to ten times what 1 ton of oil cost when the Caucasus and the area between Volga and the Urals were opened up. Nevertheless, we do not want to advance toward the Persian Gulf, if only because we are not interested in ruining the Western economy and because we do not need Mideastern oil and do not want to create insoluble problems. Oil problems, as a matter of fact, cannot be solved with the use of force. Whoever tried--be it the Soviet Union or the United States--to solve the energy problem by force would only create new problems. Possibilities exist elsewhere. The entire energy problem would appear in a quite different light if we, together with the United States, as the economically most powerful states with a corresponding economic and scientific potential, were to combine our creative abilities so as to develop new energy sources and new methods of energy production. In technical respects these problems can be mastered.

SZ: How can we accept Moscow's explanation that its war in Afghanistan, which is accompanied by worldwide protests, should be understood and excused as an act of fraternal aid, while at the same time it describes the economic sanctions which the United States has imposed on Iran because of the taking of hostages in Tehran as well as the severing of diplomatic relations as a challenge and accuses the United States of wanting to aggravate tensions and of seeking warlike adventures?

Falin: To begin with, let me correct you: We do not maintain that we are rendering "fraternal aid" to our neighbor. We say that we are fulfilling our treaty commitments and complying with a request from the government in Kabul. We must ask a basic question to make clear what we are talking about. Is Afghanistan a state like any other, or is Afghanistan a unique state? If Afghanistan is a state like any other then we must also recognize its right to defense, self-defense and collective defense. Just let us compare Afghanistan with Zaire. As is known, 3 years ago a limited number of Katanga gendarmes invaded Zaire. The Government of Zaire asked the United States, France, Belgium and other countries for aid, which was rendered immediately. The French sent paratroopers; Belgians and Moroccans arrived and transport planes were made available by the Americans. This was justified in Zaire. Why is it different with regard to Afghanistan? I fail to see any difference in principle in this. At best there is only a quantitative one inasmuch as some 2,000 or 3,000 Katanga gendarmes were fighting in Zaire at the time, whereas in Afghanistan a guerrilla war is waged by 80,000 men; these men do not come from Afghanistan, they are trained and armed in Pakistan, China and in part also in Iran and then sent across the border. It is a guerrilla war that is being waged in the impassable mountains of Afghanistan by small units who are infiltrating for short operations and then withdrawing again back to Pakistan. In order to seal off the border an army of half a million soldiers at least would be needed. This we do not want, and the Afghans do not have such an army.

But on the face of it the problem in Afghanistan is not of a military but rather of a political nature. It did not emerge because Afghanistan provoked its neighbors. It arose because some people in Pakistan, China and the United States disliked the normal democratic changes which were taking place in Afghanistan. What I mean is the revolution in Afghanistan. What were its aims? The 87 percent of illiterates were to receive the right to education and everybody the right to work. He who works in the countryside is to possess the soil which he cultivates. Those who were indebted were freed from the slavery of usurers who had virtually subjected the entire country to their dependence, and women now are equal to men, at least by virtue of the law. Who could object to such reforms?

I want to add two additional aspects. As is known, there has always been fighting in Afghanistan; at the times of Zahir Shah, Daud Shah, Taraki, Amin and today. There are battles between the Central Executive and the tribes, who do not recognize the central government whoever its leader may be, who do not want to pay taxes and do not want to respect laws. It has been like this and will remain so. And finally, regarding the refugees, of whom there is so much talk today, one only has to have a look at the border line drawn by the English in the past century. It runs right across the settlement areas of the Baluchis and Pashtus and it is a fact caused by historical events of the 19th century that, given the weather conditions, every year between 900,000 and 1,600,000 people travel from Afghanistan to Pakistan in the winter season and then return in spring without having asked either government for permission. Today the Pakistani Government interferes, it detains people or prescribes to them the do's and don't's. This is the refugee problem exploited by propaganda.

Who threatens Iran at present? This is certainly the Americans only. We let the Iranians know that we have no conflicting problems with them. On the other hand, we let it be known to the government in Tehran that we do not approve of the taking of hostages in the U.S. Embassy. We labeled the taking of hostages as what it is, namely, a violation of international law. [paragraph continues]

We never left any doubt with regard to this position, about which we informed the Iranian Government through our ambassador, neither in contacts with the Iranians nor vis-a-vis the Americans. But we likewise have said time and again that it will not serve the cause of the detained diplomats if injustice is paid back in the same coin, with injustice that threatens peace in the region.

SZ: How actually would Moscow react in Washington's place if a Soviet Embassy in Iran or elsewhere in the world had been occupied by chaotic people or pseudorevolutionaries, had Soviet diplomats been held hostage for months with the approval of the local government?

Falin: We have not been doing anything in any country that could have prepared the psychological grounds for actions like those in Tehran. It was the U.S. Embassy in Tehran proper that informed Washington in time of the serious and far-reaching consequences which could be anticipated in the event that the shah was allowed to enter the United States. It was not to be ruled out that the embassy would then be stormed and besieged. Washington turned a deaf ear to this warning.

Like any other country, it would of course place us in a difficult situation if a Soviet diplomat or even a group of Soviet diplomats were to become the object of arbitrary action. It is not only for this reason but also because of it that we--I repeat--have said that we do not approve of what is happening with the American diplomats in Tehran. This action is grossly at odds with international law. For now one cannot make any recommendation as to how the hostage issue is to be solved. I do not envy the situation in which the U.S. administration finds itself. But I believe that the United States is responsible for the hardening of the situation and for the fact that ways and means have still not been found to achieve a reasonable solution satisfactory to both sides. There have been possibilities, this must be pointed out, only they have not been seized.

SZ: Does the Soviet Union see a possibility for using its influence on behalf of the hostages after--surprisingly enough--rather close relations have lately developed between Moscow and Tehran?

Falin: We have tried to be helpful in the hostages issue by having elucidated our point of view to the government in Tehran. It knows that we adhere to the need that international law must be respected. The Americans have been informed about our steps. Thus it is not our fault, that of the Soviet Union, that the hostage issue has not yet been settled. The problem is more profound with its roots lying in the disturbed relations between Iran and the United States which are overshadowed by a U.S. policy which had imposed the shah on Iran and supported him for 25 years. This cannot be removed from day to day. But this in turn--I must repeat--is not to mean that we consider the taking of hostages as excusable.

SZ: The USSR and Afghanistan recently signed a treaty on what is referred to as the "temporary" stationing of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, thereby belatedly legalizing the military intervention. How may the term "temporarily" be understood?

Falin: I would say that temporarily means temporarily, expressing first that we do not have the intention of remaining in Afghanistan for good. Second, it means that we do not want to set up and maintain military bases there, and third, that we do not intend to utilize Afghanistan as a springboard for actions against third countries.

As regards the treaty itself, it is the normal wish of two countries with orderly interstate relations to settle on a legal basis all problems which, after all, are linked with the stationing of troops. This is absolutely logical as long as the troops have been invited.

As to how long our troops will remain in Afghanistan, that is not up to us. President Brezhnev said February that it would be enough if the United States, Pakistan, China and some other countries were to guarantee to us that there would not be more interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Then we would be ready to withdraw our troops. Unfortunately the United States reacted in a different way than had been expected. Instead of suspending its so-called help for the mercenaries and the insurgents, it has stepped it up. This greatly postpones a political solution of the situation. What we are striving for is not a military but a political solution, to which we want to contribute, and we also know that the government in Kabul gives preference to the political over any other solution.

SZ: Economic sanctions or a boycott of the Olympic games, which the United States wants to impose as punitive measures because of Afghanistan, will have little impact on the Soviet Union. What could become dangerous for Moscow, however, is that Carter now is playing the Chinese card.

Falin: Today's tensions have nothing to do with Afghanistan. The international situation deteriorated long before Afghanistan. This can be proved easily. There was, for instance, NATO's decision on closing the arms gap last December, or President Carter's speech the same day in which he announced his military program for the next 5 years for the United States' struggle for its leading role in the world. In that regard this desire for hegemony did not remain wishful thinking; military measures were taken immediately. I ask you how the West would have reacted had we proclaimed such a 5-year plan in the Soviet Union, a program in which the USSR declared entire regions as its vital spheres of interest and not only stated this but also said point-blank that in order to defend these zones we were setting up a special navy, a special air force and a special strike force with everything that goes with this? Who gives the United States the right to decide the affairs of others?...

I think that what the Americans are now doing with China is an adventuristic policy. They do not support efforts of a country aimed at securing peace, they are supporting the policy of a country which openly--I would say cynically--is aimed at harming another country. How would the Americans react if we were to support efforts in a country bordering on the United States directed against U.S. interests? They would say that this was aggression, a gross violation of American interests. Why do the Americans not ask themselves how we in the Soviet Union would react to such provocations?

As a matter of fact, we will cope with our problems with China. It is not a question of whether we are able to ward off this threat. The question only arises as to whether peace will become more stable this way, whether China itself, the Soviet Union and the other states of the region should not better spend their money for peaceful purposes than for armament. We know of an American theory saying that it is to their advantage if we spend as much as possible for armament because then there is less to spend for social and economic tasks. Some of those around the President even say that they should enforce such an armament pace on the Soviet Union, that in that case the Soviet economy could no longer survive. If this is their policy then why do they complain to us time and again that we spend too much on armament? We would love to spend less, but we have no choice.

The Americans have only one state as their opponent--the Soviet Union. Lately they always speak of the enemy. We have the United States, we have China, and we have many other Western countries against us on whose soil nuclear weapons are aimed at us. I do not want to name names here. We also have NATO as an alliance that is directed against us. These are five. You should also take this into account when you assess the size of our armament efforts.

NOVIKOV REPORTS TO IOC MEETING IN LAUSANNE

LD222308 Moscow TASS in English 1921 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Lausanne, April 22, TASS--A joint meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee and officials of 26 international sport federations, including of the sports that will be represented at the Moscow Olympics, was held here today.

The meeting was addressed by I.T. Novikov, chairman of the Organising Committee of the 1980 Summer Games, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. He noted that Moscow as well as Leningrad, Kiev, Minsk and Tallinn were, in principle, ready to accommodate the participants and guests of the games and to hold all the Olympic competitions. He dwelt in detail on various aspects of the work that is now nearing completion to commission various sports facilities and also on questions of accommodating and servicing sportsmen and guests of the Olympics.

"In close cooperation with IOC, international sport federations and national Olympic committees," he said, "the Organising Committee of the 1980 Summer Games has created all the necessary conditions for holding the games on a high sporting, technical and organisational level."

The report by the Organising Committee was received by all those present with much interest and satisfaction. Also discussed at the joint meeting were a number of other questions connected with the international Olympic movement which, after yesterday's granting of membership to Vietnam and Qatar, now includes more than 140 countries.

TASS, EBU SIGN PROTOCOL ON OLYMPIC GAMES COVERAGE

LD220908 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--A protocol on cooperation in coverage of the 1980 Olympic games was signed here today between TASS and the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) representing the interests of 21 sound and television broadcasting corporations of European countries. The protocol was signed for the Soviet side by the General Director of TASS S.A. Losev and for the EBU by the head of its operational group B. Ward.

USSR DELEGATE CALLS FOR UN RESOLUTION ON LEBANON

LD221631 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 80 p 5

[Correspondent A. Tolkunov report: "Security Council Session"]

[Excerpts] New York, 15 April--The UN Security Council session convened in connection with Israel's new acts of unconcealed aggression against Lebanon continues here.

O.A. Troyanovskiy, the USSR's permanent representative, stated in his speech: Israel's provocative actions against Lebanon and the UN troops deployed in its southern regions are a continuation of the aggressive course of Israeli ruling circles, for whom military adventures against neighboring Arab states have long been a means of achieving far-reaching annexationist goals.

The Soviet spokesman stated that the USSR delegation considers it necessary for the Security Council to adopt a special resolution in connection with recent events in southern Lebanon. In the USSR's opinion this resolution should contain clear, unambiguous formulations not only calling for strict respect for Lebanon's territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence within its internationally recognized borders but also providing for the adoption of the most resolute measures with respect to the Israeli aggressor.

HOSTAGES 'MERE PAWNS' IN U.S. MILITARY BLACKMAIL OF IRAN

LD221918 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Washington, April 22, TASS--Speaking in a CBS television interview President J. Carter said that the use of military force was the only next step to be taken by the United States in its toughening policy with regard to Iran. Commenting on the President's pronouncement, the CBS news-caster, Walter Cronkite, pointed out that Carter was keeping a free hand for a military solution of the problem.

The reaction of the White House to the attempts of the Iranian authorities to ease the lot of the hostages is direct proof of the White House's desire to use the situation for working up chauvinistic hysteria and intensifying preparations for anti-Iranian punitive actions. For example, the permission granted by the Iranian authorities to the mother of one of the hostages to visit him in Tehran caused extreme irritation in the White House. The White House regarded this as a direct blow to the policy towards Iran worked out by Washington, noted a commentator of the NBC television company.

It is clear that the humane act of the Iranian authorities caused fury in Washington exactly because it messed up the administration's plans and hindered the preparation and implementation of its aggressive designs against Iran. This is the reason behind Carter's ordering a ban on all travel to Iran by U.S. citizens. The ASSOCIATED PRESS reports that persons found guilty of violating the ban will face a 2,000-dollar fine and a prison term of up to five years.

As to the U.S. Embassy hostages, Washington could not care less about their fate. They were and remain mere pawns in Washington's policy of military blackmail and threats.

LEVCHENKO COMMENTS ON PLANS FOR COUP IN IRAN

LD221625 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] The Iranian news agency PARS has circulated a document that confirms the administration in Washington was preparing a counterrevolutionary coup in Iran. Leonid Levchenko has been studying this document. Here are his comments:

This secret document that has fallen into the hands of the Iranian authorities was addressed to the U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, on 6 August last year by the President's adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski. He called for coordinated action by the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon to influence developments in Iran and he said the recommendations had been drawn up in accordance with wishes expressed by the former shah during consultations with him.

This White House memorandum was prepared long before the United States began to use the hostage issue as a pretext for preparations for aggression against Iran. The document reaffirms that one of the duties of the U.S. Embassy staff was to undermine the revolution in Iran. For example, the White House ordered contact to be established with all leaders of political groups and trends, including national and religious minorities and extremist groups capable of organizing armed resistance to the Iranian authorities. Along with these measures to stamp out the revolution the administration in Washington did all it could to frighten the Iranian people with its military might and discredit the changes taking place in Iran in the eyes of the Muslim world.

Meanwhile, the United States press has revealed facts about Washington's criminal activity against Iran. The New York TIMES reports that the Carter administration was preparing a military takeover if the pro-Western Bakhtiar government appointed by the shah early last year was overthrown. Gen Robert Huyser was sent to Tehran in January of last year for this purpose, but events in Iran developed so quickly that they upset this sinister plan. Significantly a State Department spokesman in Washington has refused to comment on the New York TIMES report, saying it would not be constructive at the present stage.

It's clear enough why Washington is trying to play it down. An admission would expose the policy the United States is following toward Iran and trying to impose on its allies as well.

In an interview for CBS television President Carter has again threatened Iran and accused its leaders of intransigeance. Along with threats Washington is preparing punitive actions. This anti-Iranian policy should make it clear to the world that the United States is ready to use military force wherever it claims to have vital interests.

ABLAMOV DISMISSES U.S. REPORT ON RUSSIAN AGENTS IN IRAN

LD221523 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--TASS commentator Ivan Ablamov writes:

The Washington STAR came out with more allegations about the Soviet Union's policy with regard to Iran. The inflamed imagination of the newspaper's editors sees "influential" Russian agents "pentrating" Iran so as to cause chaos, to influence Iran's foreign policy. The authors of these falsehoods assert that the Soviet Union is striving to "isolate Iran" and make other such allegations.

The authors of these concoctions really seem to have dull minds. Failing to invent anything new, they rehash the hackneyed fable about "Moscow's hand."

They hammer away these things, being unable to give any proofs. The Washington STAR's dispatch from Tehran abounds in vague hints at a certain anonymous "officer of the army intelligence services," at "certain informed sources," and so on. And this is not surprising. The newspaper has no proofs and cannot have any. The entire dispatch is an invention.

The question arises what was the newspaper's motivation beside the obvious wish to slander the Soviet Union's policy with regard to its southern neighbour. There is no doubt that it was prompted by the striving to cover up the escalation of the United States aggressive policy with regard to Iran. Resorting to allegations about "Soviet menace," the newspaper tries to camouflage the gross pressure that is being brought by the United States on Iran, the show of U.S. military might, to justify the course of interference in internal affairs of the Persian Gulf countries under the pretext of "protecting" the vital interests of the United States.

And it is not accidental that the new falsehood was printed in the days when the United States openly threatens Iran with the use of military strength, with the establishment of sea blockade and mining of Iranian ports, in the days when the United States is applying the tactic of "arms twisting" to its allies, urging them to back the adventuristic course of the United States policy in the Persian Gulf area.

As to the Soviet Union's policy with regard to Iran, it is well known that the Soviet Union has for Iran the feelings of friendliness, goodneighbourliness, respect for its sovereignty and independence. This policy was confirmed many times in practice and remains unchanged.

CIA ACCUSED OF 'PROVOCATIVE STORY' ON OIL EXTRACTION

LD222230 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] The director of the American Central Intelligence Agency, Stansfield Turner, speaking in Congress today, has again repeated his agency's allegations that the Soviet Union is now in for a sharp decline in its oil extraction. It is apparent from Mr Turner's statement that the CIA made up this provocative story to attribute an intention to the Soviet Union for establishing control over oil-bearing regions of other countries which is in actual fact what the United States is now doing. The Carter administration, ignoring the neighboring countries' opinion, has declared the Persian Gulf a zone of American vital interests and has sent an armada of warships to the region.

LAPSKIY HITS ESCALATING U.S. ANTI-CUBA CAMPAIGN

LD221633 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Lapskiy article under the rubric "International Notes": "Why the Ghost Hunt Was Found Necessary"]

[Text] A perplexing--to put it mildly--document has just been published in the United States. It is drawn up as a manifesto and bears the title "Dealing With Cuba." It is compiled by the so-called "Coalition for a Democratic Majority," headed by "hawk" Senators Henry Jackson and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. The "manifesto" represents a program for crude, unceremonious interference in Cuba's internal affairs; for instance, the organization of inflammatory radio broadcasts to "fuel antigovernment feeling," the import of subversive literature onto the island and much more--15 points in all.

The "manifesto" made its appearance at the precise moement when the anti-Cuban campaign in the United States has attained a great intensity. Some time ago U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance made sharp anti-Cuban attacks, demagogically and groundlessly accusing Havana of interfering in Central American and Caribbean countries' affairs.

On the pretext of the nonexistent "Cuban threat" Washington has begun a rapid buildup of its military potential in the Caribbean, where the roar of a succession of large-scale navy, aviation and landing force maneuvers is to be heard. Now it has been announced that the United States will shortly hold new and clearly provocative exercises around Cuba involving the landing of marines and soldiers at the Guatanamo Naval Base--which is, as is well known, on Cuban soil--air exercises and the mining of Caribbean waters. According to the foreign press, 20,000 soldiers and officers, 42 ships and 350 aircraft will take part in these war "games," code-named "(Sold) Shield-80." In their desire to make conditions on the maneuvers approximate as closely as possible to the combat situation, the Pentagon generals plan to evacuate all civilian personnel during the landing at the Guatanamo Base--something that has not been done before.

The question arises: Just what in actual fact has caused the unbridled campaign against a peace-loving country that enjoys great international prestige?

In many Central American and Caribbean countries turbulent internal processes have been taking place recently which are smashing or loosening their sociopolitical structure. The revolution in Nicaragua, the aggravated confrontation between democratic forces and the pro-American oligarchies in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, the actions in defense of national sovereignty in Panama, the progressive changes in Guyana, Jamaica and Grenada.... As a result of the powerful upheavals enveloping the region the positions of the American monopolies operating there and Washington's strategic military positions are under threat. The United States is trying to snuff out the demonstrations by the people's masses in those countries and to restore the status quo.

Official Washington and its propaganda try to make out that...Cuba is behind events in the region's countries, including El Salvador. True, there is no evidence of Havana's so-called interference in its neighbors' affairs--it simply does not exist.

The U.S. provocations against the Island of Freedom have evoked a mighty wave of popular indignation of Cuba. Rallies and meetings in support of the government's position and in protest at the dirty anti-Cuban campaign of lies and intimidation are being held everywhere in the country. Placards and slogans defending the revolution and socialism are everywhere to be seen in the Cuban capital and other cities these days. Residents are hanging Cuban national flags on their houses. A working people's demonstration is to be held in Havana 19 April at the instigation of the Central Union of Cuban Workers, the Federation of Cuban Women, National Association of Small Farmers and all the country's other mass public organizations. It is timed to coincide with the anniversary of the historic victory at Playa Giron and will be an expression of Cuban's mighty support for their government's policy and a resolute protest against the anti-Cuban campaign mounted by the U.S. imperialists.

Washington's clamorous anti-Cuban campaign enjoys no particular support in Latin America. A few days ago Mexican Foreign Minister J. Castaneda rejected U.S. Secretary of State Vance's statement that the present events in Central American countries are caused by "Cuban involvement." At the same time he also derided American propaganda's fabrications regarding a mythical "Soviet-Cuban plan to foment disorder in Central America with the aim of getting hold of...Mexican oil." "That is ridiculous," Castaneda declared, not mincing his words. "Any hostile actions against the Cuban revolution are doomed to fail and will be resolutely condemned by the world's peoples," Prime Minister M. Bishop of Grenada declared in Saint George's.

The present anti-Cuban campaign betrays Washington's irritation at Cuba's growing international prestige and increasingly active and constructive participation in solving acute world problems. At the same time the United States is using this campaign to screen its own far from ghostly, but manifest and crude interference in the Central American peoples' affairs.

MILITARY STRENGTH BUILDUP AT EXPENSE OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS

LD211049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 80 p 5

[Sergey Filatov article: "The Pentagon Has Priority"]

[Text] U.S. President J. Carter has sent Congress a revised draft federal budget for fiscal 1981. This document reflects graphically the main trends in the present Washington administration's political course.

The first thing to strike you is the new increase in military expenditure. For the forthcoming fiscal year the ceiling will increase to $164.5 billion. In the following 2 years it is planned to assign the Pentagon $196.9 billion and $209.3 billion respectively.

These are record figures. Never before has the United States spent so much "on defense" but in fact on military backup for its hegemonist and expansionist ambitions. These U.S. claims are backed by what in Washington's view is a very weighty argument--the buildup of the country's militarist [as published] strength. Although the President states that the inflation of the military budget is essential to him for "expanding operations in the Persian Gulf region and the Indian Ocean." This is merely a ruse. It must not be forgotten that the United States intends to deploy new types of nuclear weapons in West Europe and is preparing to commission the MX missle, which will be based on US territory. Money is also needed for this. A lot of money.

The Washington administration not only invisages building up U.S. military strength by creating new types of armaments, cobbling together the "quick reaction corps" and strengthening the network of military bases throughout the world. The new draft federal budget also includes large sums for supporting states "friendly" to the United States in regions of "strategic importance" from Washington's viewpoint. In fact this means that the United States, in giving economic and military aid to countries ruled by regimes convenient to it, is seeking to intensify its control in those countries. Washington attaches special significance to this "aid" now in an attempt to obtain new bases and cobble together new blocs in the Indian Ocean and Pacific region.

As so, billions more for military purposes. But what about social programs? Funds for them will be cut back by $2.6 billion in the current fiscal year and by $17.2 billion next year. Programs of aid to local authorities and the development of urban transport will be cut back, and appropriations for education and health care and job placement funds will be reduced.

The draft budget cynically envisages an increase in U.S. unemployment. J. Carter admits that it will exceed 7 percent. That means that the Washington authorities already guarantee millions of Americans that they will have no work. And this is being stated by representatives of the same Democratic Party which, back in 1946, proclaimed its intention to achieve full employment in the country.

The new draft U.S. budget promises the monopolies new profits and the working people new burdens.

SOLDATOV VIEWS TRENDS IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN

ID221543 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 80 Morning Edition P 5

[Correspondent V. Soldatov report: "Chasing After Votes"]

[Text] New York--The chase for votes is in full swing in the United States. And the more primary elections take place, the fewer presidential candidates remain. Senators H. Baker and R. Dole, former governor of Texas J. Connally and present Governor of California E. Brown have withdrawn their candidacies. Congressman P. Crane is also faced with the need to take the same decision.

The failure of each of these politicians, like the success of other contenders, can be explained both by their personal qualities and by the concurrence of circumstances. U.S. commentators in particular speak unanimously of the inconstancy and volatility of the electorate at the present presidential elections. But there are also undoubtedly common factors influencing the sympathies and antipathies of various groups of the population and the results of the primary elections.

"The period of the presidential elections," the historian A. Tocqueville once wrote, "is reminiscent of a period of national crisis during which the president governs not in the interests of the state but only for the sake of his reelection."

This time too an atmosphere of crisis has been artificially created in the country through the efforts of the White House. The administration has used the seizure of the US Embassy in Tehran and the protracted negotiations on the fate of the hostages to fuel chauvinist sentiments in the country. A climate has been created in which critisicm of the president's actions on any issues is viewed as an inpatriotic act. At the start of the new year the administration heated the atmosphere, developing a noisy anti-Soviet campaign still further.

Military hysteria serves the interests of a considerable section of the country's ruling circles which have decided to unleash a new round of armaments and have embarked on the path of military interference in the affairs of other states. But such sentiments also accord well with the President's personal political ambitions. The anti-Iranian and anti-Soviet campaigns have distracted the population's attention from the acute internal problems and enabled the President by means of a series of widely publicized measures to show himself "a determined leader." Speculations on patriotism, calls to unite around the President have had an effect on the results of the primary elections which have taken place. Carter has won victories at all ballots and referendums held to date apart from the primary elections in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and Arizona where the voters gave preference to E. Kennedy.

Among the Republican candidates former Governor of California R. Reagan has come out ahead. Reagan and former CIA chief G. Bush act from overtly conservative positions. They promise to implement a policy of "stringent economy" and intend to reduce appropriations on social needs and struggle against Washington's bureaucratism. They demand toughness with regard to the Russians in international affairs and advocate the adoption of new military programs which will make the United States "the mightiest power in the world." The Republicans views on the majority of issues of the country's domestic and foreign policy do not differ from the administration's policy. The racist G. Wallace, former governor of Alabama, who has frequently stood for nomination at the presidential elections remarked on this subject: "The majority of candidates in both parties are now saying the same thing I was saying in 1968."

The duel between President J. Carter and Senator E. Kennedy is arousing special attention at these elections. The members of the party in power do not often challenge their White House colleague. This time it is the last of the Kennedy brothers who has taken this step.

Last fall Kennedy was a long way ahead of Carter in public opinion polls. It seemed then that he would have no great difficulty in winning the majority at the convention. But a big name did not guarantee success. Kennedy's campaign was badly organized and initially he did not discuss the problems worrying the voters. The persistent efforts of some people again raised an outcry around the incident at Chappaquiddick where the young woman traveling with Kennedy was drowned in an automobile accident. The candidate gradually began to lose the voters' support.

However, in the last 6 weeks Kennedy has turned to the questions which affect the interests of the majority of voters--inflation, unemployment, and the deteriorating situation of a number of groups of the population. The candidate proposes to introduce compulsory government control over prices and wages. Kennedy is against a sharp reduction in expenditure on social needs. He is criticizing, albeit cautiously, some aspects of the administration's foreign policy and its desire to maintain an atmosphere of military hysteria in the country.

A considerable proportion of the voters who might have supported Kennedy are voting for the Republican J. Anderson. The local press calls his successes a paradox. The congressman from Illinois, little known until recently, so far has no strong organization or substantial financial support. Against the background of other Republican contenders Anderson stands out through the moderation of his views.

The rise in his popularity attests to certain changes in the public mood. Americans, particularly part of the intelligentsia, are thinking increasingly frequently about where the policy of intensifying international tension obstinately pursued by the administration has led and could yet lead the country. Other categories of the population, while paying tribute to chauvinism, are beginning to pay increasing attention to their own immediate needs: to the rapid fall in the dollar's purchasing power, and the collossal rise in prices for necessities. Emphasis in the election campaign is beginning to shift toward a discussion of domestic problems.

The White House understands this and is taking steps in response, designed to back up the President's prestige. J. Carter recently issued a new anti-inflation program. At the same time government experts are seeking to create the impression that inflation is an inevitable evil which is provoked mainly by external causes like the rise in prices for oil on the world market. Attempts are being made to depict the President as a "peacemaker." Scenes filmed during the signing of the separate Camp David agreement are now being shown on New York television as a paid advertisement. The moderator impresses on viewers: "President Carter--peacemaker."

The press and television play a large part in the election campaign. They largely determine the voters' attitude to candidates. The position of the mass information media is far-removed from objectivity. During the primary elections, CBS broadcasts were markedly eager to show Kennedy in a disadvantageous light. On voting day in Maine CBS rushed to announce a "decisive victory" for Carter long before the voting had ended, as a result some of Kennedy's supporters did not go to the polling booths, believing their candidate had been defeated anyway.

What the press did predict correctly was the candidates' large expenditure at the primary elections. By 1 March R. Reagan had spent $12 million on the election campaign and his rival G. Bush had spent $7 million. There was an amusing incident involving J. Connally. Having spent $11 million, he got a vote from just one candidate at the Republican Party convention. Among the Democrats J. Carter has spent the most--$6 million.

The chase after votes is gathering scope.

GUDKOV: VOTERS MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN GREATER, LESSER EVIL

LD230927 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 15, Apr 80 pp 7-9

[Correspondent Yu. Gudkov dispatch: "United States: Seeking the Lesser Evil"]

[Excerpts] New York, 7 April--In the 1976 elections J. Carter exploited the crisis of confidence. His chief merit was his position as a "novice." It was the protest vote against government institutions that gave the Democrat Carter victory over the Republican Ford. His promises also played a part. In this sphere Carter has no equal in the history of presidential races. He promised to reduce arms, to cut military spending, to curtail exports of American weapons, not to use food as an "instrument of pressure," to conquer unemployment, and so forth.

The promises accorded with the nation's mood, but they were all directly broken or forgotten. The same Washington from which the voter was seeking salvation in someone previously unconnected with the capital has prospered as never before. The supporters or, simply, the henchmen of the major corporations--primarily military-industrial and oil corporations--have prospered in an unprecedented way. The reverse side of the coin is the intensification of international tension and the exacerbation of internal economic and social problems.

In the current campaign the White House has set an example in avoiding really important discussion. The events in Iran arising out of U.S. policy in that part of the world have provided the practical opportunity for this. Likewise the series of artificial crises created by Washington. The President has declared that the international situation and the fate of the American Embassy staffers in Tehran prevent him taking part in the election campaign. The wave of chauvinism aroused by the press has demanded that people "rally round the President." While confining himself to the White House, however, Carter has not kept out of the election race.

Visits to the White House for meetings with the President and his aides have become the rule for large groups of businessmen, political and labor union leaders, mayors and other people with local influence. For several months Senator Kennedy sought an opportunity for a debate with the President. Once he even organized a debate with...a tape recording of a 2-year old speech by the President. Another time both Carter and Kennedy addressed the American consumers federation. With an interval of 20 minutes.

"Who was that guy who left here in such a hurry?"--Kennedy began his speech, alluding to the President's "elusiveness." "He is in a hurry to familiarize himself with a critically important document connected with national security--the Portland, Maine telephone book."

The irony was quite understandable. The President "does not have time" to meet voters and political opponents but spends hours on telephone conversations with local figures and voters on the eve of new primaries. Journalists and television technicians were recently called to the White House at 0700 hours, when the President announced his intention of taking new steps with regard to Iran. Why such an unusual time? It coincided with the start of voting in the states of Wisconsin and Kansas. As a Pennsylvania Democrat, who prefers not to give his name, says, "he (the President--Yu.G.) might not know much about running the economy, but on the other hand he has a swell understanding of how to run an election campaign."

These were fruitful tactics right up to the elections in New York and Connecticut. The press had frankly written Kennedy off after his major defeat in Illinois. But his win in New York made it change its tone. New York TIMES correspondents rushed off to find out the opinion of the "man in the street" in an attempt to find an explanation for what had happened. This is what they heard.

Nora Morrissey: "I am tired of Carter, he has done nothing for me. Let someone else have a go."

Gladys Ramos: "Prices have gone sky high, and it has become difficult to make ends meet. Carter is not for the little guy. We are really struggling here, but he doesn't want to do anything for us at all."

Alberta Erlich: "I feel guilty about not voting. But I'm tired of voting for the lesser of two evils, as in the end you still choose an evil."

There is now a temporary lull in the election race. Everyone is waiting for the result of the primaries in Pennsylvania, which has a large number of electors [Vyborshchik: usually used for members of electoral college; presumably intended to indicate delegate votes here]. Kennedy intends to fight hard there. However, the laws of arithmetic are already coming into play. According to the figures as of 2 April, Carter has 848 votes of the 1,666 needed to win the first round of voting [nomination] at the Democratic convention. He is also in a strong position in several other states, where the primaries have not yet taken place. Kennedy has 445 votes.

Ronald Reagan's confident victories have placed him in first place among the Republicans. Fears of a repeat of the 1964 fiasco are now receding. In the present situation of "crises," about which the administration does not tire of speaking, Reagan's views have unexpectedly acquired some consonance with current policy. Moreover, he advocates "simple" solutions to complex problems. Specialists have doubts about them, but they elicit a response among voters. Like the proposal, for example, to reduce taxes by 30 percent as a means of combating inflation or to give state authorites jurisdiction over a number of social programs. Reagan is against the SALT II treaty but is ready, according to him, for "a genuine limitation of strategic nuclear weapons." He is against Carter's proposed registration of Americans of draft age in peacetime.

The voters' dissatisfaction with the choice offered them remains beyond doubt, however: They have to choose between a greater and a lesser evil. J. Carter seemed the lesser evil 4 years ago. Now the voter feels deceived.

PATOLICHEV MEETS WITH OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM'S HAMMER

LD171221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 4

[TASS report: "Conversations held"]

[Text] On 8 and 9 April N.S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, received A. Hammer, chairman of the board of America's Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

Questions of business cooperation between Soviet foreign trade organizations and that corporation were discussed during the conversations.

BRIEFS

FISHING TALKS--The Soviet-U.S. talks on joint fishing in 1980 began in Nakhodka yesterday. The directors of the Soviet-U.S. company for the utilization of maritime resources and representatives of the Dalryba Association are discussing practical measures aimed at flounder fishing in the Bering Sea and hake fishing near the U.S. and Canadian coasts. Participating in the talks are Oleg Nikolayevich Portenkov, director of the deep sea fishing base, and (David Fisher), captain of the U.S. fishing flotilla, who will collaborate in fishing. [Text] [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 16 Apr 80 OW]

FAR EASTERN PROBLEMS CITED ON PRC'S ANTI-ARAB POLICY

LD221356 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 22 Apr 80

["Beijing's Anti-Arab Course"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--"The Beijing leaders, who aim at converting the Arab-Israeli conflict into a constant seat of international tension, do not strive at all for the restoration of peace and justice, for the victory of the national liberation fo ces in that region of the world", the magazine PROBLEMY DALNEGO VOSTOKA (FAR EASTERN PROBLEMS) writes.

Analyzing Beijing's policy vis-a-vis the Arab countries, the magazine points out that "Beijing does not care at all for the destiny of the peoples of the Middle East region. The task, which is of paramount importance for implementation of the great-power designs of the PRC leadership and therefore determines Beijing's tactics in recent years, has been and still is utmost resistance to a comprehensive political settlement of the Middle East crisis, to an equitable solution of the Palestinian problem and to the conversion of the Middle East region into a zone of peace and cooperation".

At the same time, the magazine says, Beijing is increasingly going for a rapprochement with Israel. "Maoist China and Israel are united by their common hostility to the Arab national liberational movement, to the cause of struggle for international detente, disarmament and a ban on tests and proliferation of nuclear weapons."

The magazine points out that the signing of the "peace" treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv largely facilitated the conclusion of a military agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the People's Republic of China, which was qualified by the Arab communist press as "Chinese aggression against the Arab nation". Highly revealing of the real attitude of the Maoists to the interests of the Arab peoples is the fact that Chinese arms are made available to the Arab Republic of Egypt at a moment when Egypt has already abandoned its confrontation with Israel and therefore cannot use them in the all-Arab struggle.

NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

LD161646 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 16 Apr 80

[Text] Beijing, April 16, TASS--The Standing Committee of the National People's Assembly of China, which was in session for several days, adopted today a number of decisions, including on the holding of a regular session of the National People's Assembly of the Fifth Convocation in August this year.

In fulfillment of a decision of the CPC Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress revised the 45th Article of the PRC Constitution and deleted its provisions on the right of citizens to "extensively speak out their views, to fully present their opinions, to broad discussions and to the putting up of wall posters."

The Standing Committee relieved of their posts Wu De, Ji Dengkui and Chen Xilian who were earlier removed from the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee. At the same time Zhao Ziyang and Wan Li were appointed vice premiers of the PRC State Council.

IZVESTIYA: JAPAN 'CAPITULATED' TO U.S. ON IRANIAN OIL

LD221912 Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--Japan capitulated to Washington, writes IZVESTIYA'S Tokyo Correspondent.

"Now that the stoppage of the deliveries of Iranian oil to Japan has become an accomplished fact, certain quarters try to present this as a commonplace event in the sphere of foreign trade deals, saying that the partners, don't you see, merely failed to agree on terms, which is nothing out of the ordinary. It would not be amiss, however, to recall in this connection the admission made recently by General Secretary of Japan's Cabinet of Ministers Ito. He said recently that the ban of the Ministry of the International Trade and Industry on accepting the prices sugtested by Iran is in a broad sense one of the manifestations of cooperation with the USA in sanctions against Iran," the author writes.

While it is sought in Japan to cover up this aspect of the problem with the talk about the commercial situation and inflation, the situation that is being formed in the Japanese-Iranian relations on Tokyo's initiative is being publicized and favourably commented on in the USA.

"Washington's enthusiasm is quite understandable," the correspondent writes. "The White House regards Japan's capitulation as a breach in the positions of the allies of the United States, many of whom were so far highly critical of the 'sanctions' against Iran being imposed by the United States. It is hoped in the USA that the trip to Western Europe by Japan's Foreign Minister Saburo Okita will help widen this breach. Okita arrived in Luxembourg allegedly for the purpose of reaching agreement on stands with the EEC, but in reality he already holds the positions that were "agreed upon" with Washington... The rupture of relations with Iran in the sphere of oil not at all meets the interests of Japan. Quite the contrary, it clearly contradicts the entire range of its "interests."

PRESS CONFERENCEON KPA ACTIVATION ANNIVERSARY REPORTED

SK220528 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 17 Apr 80

[Text] A press conference was held today in Moscow on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the activation of the Korean People's Armed Forces [KPA]. Snr Col Kang Chong-Chol, army, navy and air force military attache at the DPRK Embassy in the Soviet Union, explained the history of the activation of the KPA and the achievements attained by the officers and men of the KPA in orthodox political training. In conclusion, he expressed thanks to the Soviet people for supporting the righteous struggle of the Korean people to achieve the peaceful reunification of the fatherland based on the principle of democracy, without interference by foreign forces.

U.S., SEOUL OBSTRUCTING DPRK'S REUNIFICATION INITIATIVE

LD221317 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Yu. Dmitriyev article under the rubric "International Notes": "What Is Hindering the Dialogue"]

[Text] The DPRK recently came out with an important initiative aimed at resuming the dialogue initiated in the summer of 1972 between Pyongyang and Seoul on the problem of Korea's independent and peaceful reunification.

As is well known, Kim Il-song, vice president of the DPRK and secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee, appealed to the leaders of the South's ruling and opposition parties, while Yi Chong-ok, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, appealed to South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Sin Hyon-Hwak with the proposal that a consultative conference and multilateral talks be held between the political and social organizations of both parts of Korea. The South Korean prime minister gave what was in principle a positive reply and on 6 February in Panmunjom, a small town in the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Korea since the 1950-1953 war, working conferences of the sides' representatives set about agreeing on the terms of a forthcoming meeting between the prime ministers (venue, composition of participants, agenda). Displaying a constructive approach and a high degree of responsibility for the success of the undertaking, the North Korean side proposes holding the premiers' meetings on Korean terriroty (in Panmunjom, Pyongyang and Seoul) rather than abroad and not limiting the range of questions discussed to a narrow agenda, as Seoul is insisting.

Unfortunately the South Korean authorities are displaying a different approach to the dialogue. The very fact that, obviously under pressure from them, not a single party or public leader has yet responded to DPRK Vice President Kim Il-song's appeal attracts attention. Some of the Seoul ruling circles' actions are of the nature of deliberate acts designed to sour the atmosphere and complicate the incipient talks.

Thus, the military activity of Seoul and the United States has recently grown unwontedly (there are now 38,000 U.S. servicemen equipped with modern weapons, including nuclear weapons, in South Korea). Military exercises and maneuvers have been in progress almost continually since January on and around the territory of the Korean Peninsula. U.S. reconnaissance aircraft are continuing regular incursions into DPRK airspace. From time to time the South Korea side opens fire on DPRK servicemen on patrol duty in the Demilitarized Zone. At the same time in South Korea itself anticommunist hysteria is being fueled and repressions stepped up against students and other strata of the population demanding the democratization of social life. All these totally unprovoked actions by the Seoul military, behind which stands U.S. imperialism, are aggravating tension in the Korean Peninsula region and undermining the foundations of peaceful dialogue between North and South Korea.

"We have frequently stressed," Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP Central Committee and president of the DPRK, said in an interview with the French newspaper LE MONDE, "that we are not dreaming of any 'southward encroachment' ['vtorzheniye na yug'] and do not want to impose our system on South Korea. Nevertheless the U.S. troops remain in South Korea on the pretext of preventing some 'southward encroachment', which is possible only in their imagination. In fact they simply want to prevent our country's reunification."

Overt U.S. interference in Korea's internal affairs--that is the main obstacle in the way of a successful intra-Korean dialogue and the country's reunification. The Carter administration's abandonment of its own promise to withdraw U.S. Ground Forces from South Korea attests to U.S. imperialism's desire to keep South Korea as one of its main military bases in the Far East, and for this purpose to perpetuate the country's division. It is no secret that this desire is shared by the Beijing leaders, who are prepared to sacrifice the interests of any other people or state to their own anti-Soviet, hegemonist designs.

But the Korean people are not alone in their struggle for the motherland's peaceful unification. Soviet people and the peoples of the other socialist countries and all progressive forces of the world are in complete solidarity with them. One would like to hope that the new stage in the dialogue between South and North initiated on the DPRK's initiative will serve to strengthen peace and security in Korea and to create other favorable conditions for restoring the Korean people's national unity.

MOSCOW PERSIAN: SAVCHENKO VIEWS AFGHAN PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL TALKS

NC221430 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Text] Dear listeners: The Central Committee of the Afghan People's Democratic Party has put forward specific proposals--in statements issued on the occasion of the second anniversary of the April revolution--to secure lasting and democratic peace and stable security for nations throughout Asia and in the area of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]. Our commentator Igor Savchenko writes:

Everyone knows that the first statement on the official DRA program stated that this government considers that striving for world peace and regional peace and development and consolidation of the basis of understanding between nations are among its main duties on the international scale. Such a peace-loving policy is a natural and legitimate phenomenon for a government whose highest and loftiest objective is the interests of the country's workers and of the energetic people of Afghanistan. Where and when did workers not support lasting peace?

The truth is that both the Afghan farmers and the Iranian worker, the Pakistani craftsman and the Indian teacher want to live and work in an atmosphere of security and peace. Unfortunately, intervention by imperialists and their allies is upsetting the peaceful life and work of the workers of his region.

The United States, Beijing and international reaction have started an undeclared war against the working people of Afghanistan; and the working people of Afghanistan had no choice but to resort to arms and defend their freedom and the territorial integrity of their homeland.

U.S. imperialism has turned the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf into the scene of its war preparations, has stationed the strongest fleet since World War II in this region and is hurriedly involved in setting up a network of military bases. U.S. imperialism is using the excuse of the American hostages to threaten the Iranian people with military intervention. Together with Beijing and with the help of their stooges they want to spread the seeds of pessimism among the region's nations, hoping to be able to impose their neo-colonialist control on these nations more easily. As a result, the independence and security of all the regional nations has been endangered. The new proposals put forward by the DRA Government are aimed at overcoming this danger.

Holding bilateral talks with Iran and Pakistan in order to normalize Afghan-Iranian and Afghan-Pakistani relations will, in many ways, make it more difficult for imperialists to resort to intrigue in this region. Turning this region into an area of peace, as envisaged in the proposals by the DRA, will set up an impenetrable wall in front of the objectives of U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemony, both of which want to impose their military and strategic control on this area.

KARMAL DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF STATE FLAG AT 'SOLEMN CEREMONY'

LD230250 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2049 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, 22 April, TASS--The state flag and emblem of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] were chosen in consideration of the objective realities of Afghan society and represent an important step in the direction of ensuring broad rights and freedoms of the peoples of Afghanistan, and drawing all democratic and patriotic forces into one united national-patriotic front, which is extremely necessary at the present stage of the development of our society.

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, who spoke on Monday at a solemn ceremony marking the raising of the new DRA state flag.

Babrak Karmal expressed confidence that the state flag and emblem of the DRA would become a symbol of unity and cohesion of all the peoples of the country, of all tribes and national minorities of Afghanistan without any political, economic, social and cultural discrimination.

Under the tricolored state flag the peoples of Afghanistan will, to an ever greater extent, strengthen the cohesion of their ranks in the cause of defending the April revolution and its revolutionary gains. With this tricolored flag we express our profound adherence to and revolutionary sincerity for the history of our country, the sacred religion of Islam, and the national customs and culture of the peoples of Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal stressed that the PDPA and the DRA Government will move forward along the road of defending the April revolution and guarding its aims and tasks; along the road of victories and strengthening the revolutionary gains of the Afghan people; along the road of renewing the country and of construction of a new society free from oppression and exploitation; and along the road of creating conditions for a calm and democratic life, and for peaceful labor. Not only will we never deviate from this road and not yield to blackmail, plots, provocations, intervention and aggressive actions on the part of the imperialist forces, the reaction of the area, great power chauvinists and internal reaction, but also, relying on the single will of the free and toiling peoples of our country, we will strike a fatal blow at these murderers and hirelings of imperialism.

Babrak Karmal called on all the working peoples of the country to unite in a broad national-patriotic front with the aim of defending the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan in the interests of the cause of peace, liberty, progress, social justice, brotherhood and equality of the Afghan working people.

Concerning the country's new flag and emblem, Babrak Karmal said: "The tricolor and the present emblem fully reflect the will of our people; completely accord with our history, our national and religious traditions, and our progressive and revolutionary hopes; and represent the present conditions and stage of the development of our society.

The black color on the flag reflects the historical deeds of Abu-Muslim Khorasani and his comrades in struggle. The red color recalls that the red flag of the PDPA was a symbol of the inseparable unity of the party--a party of fighters, the party of N.M. Taraki--who fell in the struggle--a party of many other comrades who fell for the right cause. He called for the PDPA flag to be preserved as the "flag of unity of principles, as well as the ideological, organizational and political unity of the party, as the flag of its revolutionary theory." Our proletarian honor and life lies in our united party, he went on. It is one. There are not two parties. It is only the enemies of the world proletariat who speak of a second one.

The party flag is also the flag of the working class, of all the working people of Afghanistan. On the broad national-patriotic front the PDPA--a party of a new type--will advance along the road of sincere service to the people of our motherland.

Babrak Karmal noted that the raising of the PDPA flag once more demonstrates the party's "unshakable solidarity with the forces of peace, freedom and independence of peoples, of democracy and progress, or, to put it more correctly, with the three forces of our times--the world socialist system, the world working class movement and the national liberation and social movement." The proletarian party of Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal said, with a sense of patriotism and internationalism, on a broad world front together with its friends who have united with the Soviet Union, will come out against the bulwarks of repression and reaction, colonialism and neo-colonialism, world imperialism and its monopolies, and against Zionism and fascism, racism and apartheid.

KABUL MEETING COMMEMORATES LENIN'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

LD222254 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Kabul, April 22, TASS--A celebration meeting devoted to the 110th Lenin birth anniversary was held today in the Kabul Narn Theatre, one of the biggest theatres of the Afghan capital. The meeting was organized (?by the) Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society.

(?For the) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Minister of Education of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, chairman of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society Anahita Ratebzad read out a message from General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal in connection with the remarkable anniversary in the life of the entire progressive mankind.

The message emphasizes the outstanding role of the leader of the world proletariat, sincere great friend of the Moslem people of Afghanistan, of all oppressed peoples of earth. Deep fraternal friendship between Afghanistan and the land of Lenin, the message says, sets an example in international relations, and this friendship is developing with every year. The Soviet Union's disinterested assistance to Afghanistan in different spheres, including the military sphere, is the most vivid manifestation of friendly good-neighbourly and fraternal relations between our two countries. The sending to Afghanistan in answer to the request of the leadership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan of a limited contingent of Soviet troops to protect independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of our motherland against external aggression attests again to the sincere disinterested nature of this all-round assistance, the message says. The message notes that after December 27th last year, Afghan-Soviet friendship reached a new, qualitatively higher level.

PONOMAREV REPORTS OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN TO DESTROY 'BANDS'

LD221522 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0855 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Herat, April 22, TASS--TASS correspondent Leonid Ponomarev reports: Units of the Herat military garrison, detachments of the security service and volunteers have carried out a number of operations to liquidate counterrevolutionary bands which have been infiltrated into Afghanistan. During a 3-day operation in the region of Zindajan and neighboring settlements 124 bandits and mercenaries have been destroyed and 47 terrorists have surrendered with their weapons. Large quantities of arms, military equipment and food supplies at the counterrevolutionaries' secret bases have been seized.

During this operation, the population of the settlements actively helped expose and render harmless the counterrevolutionary nests and gangs of bandits, who attempted to terrorize the local population. The operations to clear Herat Province from the enemies of the Afghan people are continuing.

Among the counterrevolutionary elements active in Herat are bandits and criminals who have taken advantage of temporary difficulties in the country, as well as half-baked Maoists and followers of the Chinese Hongwei Bing (Red Guards), said A. Shureddin, one of the leaders of the group carrying out the operations. Unable to find support among the people, they resort to terror and armed robbery. A relentless struggle is going on against them. There are also, those who were forced to take up arms to protect themselves and their land against the tyranny of Amin's gang, who violated revolutionary law and the national pride of the Afghan people. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is carrying out painstaking explanatory work with these groups, stressing that the new stage of the April revolution views the reestablishment of justice and the strengthening of democracy and legality in the country as its main task. This work by the party is yielding positive results.

But the main groups of counterrevolutionaries consist of terrorists and mercenaries from Western countries sent into Afghanistan from outside, and mainly from Pakistan. Already there is more than enough evidence and testimonies from those mercenaries arrested and seized in the fighting to prove that these bandits were trained, and are still being trained, by American and Chinese instructors. This is also confirmed by the American and Chinese-produced weaponry which has been seized from them.

AFGHAN ARMED FORCES DELEGATION VISITS CENTRAL ASIAN DISTRICT

ID221327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 3

[Lt Col V. Starostin report: "'With You We Are Stronger'"]

[Text] Red Banner Central Asian Military District--A Soviet-Afghan friendship rally has been held at Alma-Ata's Marshal of the Soviet Union I.S. Konev Higher Combined Arms Command School. Taking part in it were the members of a delegation of servicemen of the people's Armed Forces of Afghanistan headed by Lt Sardar Mohammad, chief of the Democratic Youth Organization Department of the Main Political Directorate of the people's Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and officers, teachers and students of the school.

"A big thank-you to you dear Soviet brothers for your disinterested assistance," Sardar Mohammad said in his speech. "When you are beside us, we feel stronger. The enemies of the Afghan revolution will not succeed in restoring the system that they want in Afghanistan..."

Then the group of servicemen of the Afghan people's Armed Forces continued familiarizing itself with the life and with the combat and political training of the district personnel and with the forms and methods of educational work of the unit and subunit Komsomol organizations.

The delegation had a meeting with workers of the Central Asian Military District Political Directorate.

KOMMUNIST CARRIES LEADERS' ARTICLES ON FOREIGN POLICY

Gierek Article

LD220854 Moscow TASS in English 0800 GMT 22 Apr 80

["Poland: Towards Developed Socialism"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--"The Polish United Workers' Party, speaking for the entire Polish nation, persistently opposes the plans for poisoning the international atmosphere and the unleashing of a new and highly dangerous phase of the arms race and a reversion to the 'cold war'," Edward Gierek writes today. The first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party contributed to KOMMUNIST, the journal of the CPSU Central Committee, an article devoted to the transformation and advance of the Polish People's Republic in the last 35 years.

"Our historic experience and undoubted moral right. Edward Gierek says, furnished the foundation for the eight congress to propose that a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe, long since suggested by the socialist states and the peace forces of many countries, should convene in Warsaw. This manifestation of foresight and good will aroused a broad response amidst peace champions and realistically-minded political quarters throughout Europe. We are convinced that this initiative will be materialized notwithstanding any resistance and obstacles.

Our efforts for the consolidation of peace are consistently supported by the peoples, who are fighting for their freedom and social progress. True to the ideas of proletarian internationalism we are rendering assistance to the progressive, revolutionary and people's liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America."

"We solidarise with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their struggle for freedom and independence, and in defence of their socialist achievements, Edward Gierek went on to say.

We are supporting the peoples of Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and other countries which embarked upon the road of socialist development. We salute the victory of the Patriotic Front and express full support to the new Government of Zimbabwe.

We are supporting the lawful desire of the Palestine people for their own statehood, and also other people's liberation movements that are fighting against imperialist and neocolonialist domination.

We solidarise with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in its desire to translate into reality the idea of the April revolution and to put an end to imperialist intervention.

The policy of China, spearheaded against the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and the people's liberation movements is a dangerous factor in the world situation. It unites China with the most aggressive quarters of imperialism that are eager for a reversion to the 'cold war'. We vigorously resist this hegemonistic and great-power policy, which is a source of growing threat to the cause of peace in Asia and throughout the world."

Husak Article

LD220956 Moscow TASS in English 0824 GMT 22 Apr 80

["Historic Significance of Liberation of Czechoslovakia by Soviet Army"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--"The Soviet Union's victory over fascism revealed the invincible strength of the socialist order, of the ideas of the Great October Revolution and the teaching of Marx and Lenin. It made a tremendous revolutionizing impact on the destiny of all mankind", writes Gustav Husak. The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and president of the CSSR contributed an article to KOMMUNIST, the journal of the CPSU Central Committee. Surveying the great achievements of the Czechoslovak people during the 35 years after the liberation of the country from the fascist hordes, Gustav Husak dwelt on the international situation. "We strive for making our contribution to the cause of peace, detente, disarmament and security in Europe and throughout the world most effective", he points out. "We understand that the main guarantee of success in the struggle the peace forces are waging throughout the world is the might and unity of the fraternal socialist countries and their ever more closely concerted actions in the international arena".

"In the last decade the socialist community and, above all, the Soviet Union, took many major initiatives to eliminate the threat of war, to reduce the burden of armaments and to effect disarmament. The consistent peaceful proposals of the Soviet Union chart a dependable road for the continuation of peace in Europe and throughout the world, for preventing any attempts to destroy everything positive which was achieved in the process of detente".

"Socialist Czechoslovakia has always solidarized with the peoples who are fighting for their freedom and independence, for the right to choose independently their roads of development", Gustav Husak went on to say. "That is why, at one with the USSR and the other socialist countries, we render all-round assistance to the peoples of those states. Our party and people regard this as their duty, stemming from the ideas of proletarian internationalism and international revolutionary solidarity. That is why we firmly side today with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the courageous Afghan people in their hard struggle for freedom, national independence and democracy".

"At onewith the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries and all peace forces, Socialist Czechoslovakia will continue the struggle for the maintenance of detente, for making fresh progress in international relations, disarmament and mutually-advantageous equal cooperation between all the countries of the world."

"We are deeply convinced that much constructive can be done now and in the future for the strengthening of peace, security and cooperation. Socialist Czechoslovakia will promote realization of these lofty aims by way of constructive labour, active participation in the consolidation of the might and unity of the socialist community and consistent peaceable foreign policy".

GRISHIN SEES OFF BULGARIAN CP DELEGATION AT AIRPORT

LD191642 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] A delegation of Sofia City Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, led by Aleksandrov, first secretary of the committee, has been in Moscow at the invitation of the Moscow Gorkom. The Bulgarian comrades familiarized themselves with the general plan for the development of Moscow, the system of planning of the city's national economy and progressive new forms of building design and construction. The guests visited a number of institutions and enterprises in the capital, and went to the VDNKH of the USSR, Olympic installations and a new housing rayon. The delegation left for home today. It was seen off at the airport by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and other officials.

TITO'S HEALTH WORSENS, BECOMES 'CRITICAL'

LD222238 Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Belgrade, April 22, TASS--The health of Yugoslavia's President Josip Broz Tito worsened this afternoon. It became critical, says a report of the council of attending doctors, transmitted by the TANJUG news agency. The necessary medical measures are being taken.

HUNGARIAN-SOVIET SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD182140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Summary] "Final consultations between the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the National Technological Development Committee of the Hungarian People's Republic were held in Moscow today. The discussions centered on the coordination of plans for the development of science and technology during 1981-85. Correspondent Aleksey Vorobyev reports: "During the consultations it was noted that scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Hungary is expanding and improving annually. The protocol on the consultations, which was signed by Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, and Lenard Pal, president of the Hungarian National Technological Development Committee, stresses that during 1981-85 scientific and technical cooperation will be aimed, above all, at improved utilization of the potential of both countries in order to reduce the time taken to complete scientific research and development." After the protocol signing ceremony Lenard Pal said that he was very glad that a program of scientific and technical cooperation for the next plan period had been signed after painstaking preparatory work. In reply Marchuk said that the new agreement opens up opportunities for the development of cooperation with Hungary.

BRIEFS

POLISH ANNIVERSARY IN KIEV--A solemn meeting was held in Kiev on 18 April to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Soviet-Polish treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. Presiding over the meeting were Borisenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Nikolayev, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; and other officials, as well as a delegation of the Krakow Voivodship PZPR Committee headed by Gluza, secretary of the Krakow Voivodship PZPR Committee. A report was delivered by Pashchenko, board chairman of the Ukrainian branch of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade. The meeting was addressed by Nowak, Polish consul general in Kiev. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 18 Apr 80 AU]

REPORTAGE ON EEC CONSIDERATION OF IRANIAN SANCTIONS

Decision To Adopt Sanctions

LD230906 Moscow TASS in English 0736 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Luxembourg, April 23, TASS--Under the United States' pressure, the Common Market countries, after two days of a keen debate, on Tuesday decided to adopt a number of "sanctions" against Iran. At the session of the EEC Ministerial Council at foreign ministers' level here, the Nine nevertheless unequivocally dissociated itself from Washington's threats to resort to armed force against Iran.

According to Emilio Colombo, Italian minister of foreign affairs, who presided over the session, the "Little Europe" again called on Iranian President Bani-Sadr to release urgently the U.S. hostages. To make the call sound more "convincing", the EEC threatened Iran with the "sanctions" that were set out in the U.S. draft resolution which is known to have been turned down by the U.N. Security Council in January this year. The EEC Ministerial Council called on the parliaments of the member countries to prepare appropriate projects for "sanctions" by May 17, this year. An EEC foreign ministers' meeting in Naples is scheduled for May 17-18, this year, to consider the question of "new measures with regard to Iran".

Besides, the Nine decided not to conclude any new agreements with Iran on deliveries of commodities or the granting of services. The Nine also decided to reduce the diplomatic staff of the Common Market member countries in Tehran and the number of Iranian diplomats in EEC countries, to re-introduce a visa regime for Iranian citizens, and to withhold the issuance of all export licenses for the delivery of weapons and defence-related materials to Iran.

The EEC Ministerial Council instructed the ambassadors of the Nine, who were recalled for consultations, to return to Tehran and convey the adopted decisions to the Government of Iran.

Emilio Colombo said the EEC Ministerial Council instructed him to bring to President Carter's notice the Common Market decisions on punitive measures against Iran.

Kondrashov: U.S. 'Blackmails' Allies

LD231009 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 5

[S. Kondrashov article: "Quarrel Across the Atlantic"]

[Text] What effect have the anti-Iranian sanctions introduced by President Carter produced? After a week and a half it is still too early to give a definitive answer but it is possible to make a preliminary, interim assessment. First, in Iran itself the U.S. penalties were like pouring oil on the already raging fire of anti-American sentiments; these penalties intensified the popular masses' hatred for U.S. imperialism and at the same time strengthened the positions of radical groups while weakening those centers of political influence regarded by Washington as more moderate and tractable. Second, the future of the American hostages, whom the U.S. President--if we are to take him at his word--is making his prime concern, has become still more uncertain; not even approximate deadlines for their release are being given now and any contacts and talks concerning their fate have been broken off. Third, serious new tension has arisen in relations between Washington on the one hand and West European capitals and also Tokyo on the other. I would like to dwell on the third point in these remarks.

The allies are in no hurry to follow America's example and this is leading to irritation and anger on the part of the U.S. leaders who demand "full and energetic support" for the anti-Iranian sanctions. The U.S. President no longer risks issuing ultimatums to Iran for fear of appearing ridiculous. But the White House is giving the allies an ultimatum: Next week they must, it is reported, join in the economic boycott measures against Iran and by May they must break off diplomatic relations with Iran.

On both sides of the Atlantic the press is conducting an intensive verbal battle, elucidating the attitudes of the Western allies and their obligations to each other. The Americans insist on the same conjugal fidelity as was the case at the time of Domostroy [reference to 16th century compendium of feudalistic social and domestic principles]. The West Europeans point to the changed times. The Americans issue accusations and threaten to get even not only with Iran but at the same time with their partners. The latter try to justify themselves, appeal to reason and allude to the instinct for self-preservation which prevents them from acting precipitantly.

Here are some examples. The voice from the American side: "Do the Europeans and Japanese realize to what extent Washington and U.S. public opinion in general regard their support in the cause of freeing the hostages as a litmus paper indicating their fidelity to the alliance? It seems to us that they do not understand this." This is the Washington POST newspaper, talking, reproaching the American allies for taking "half measures", for "evasiveness and finickiness" and for other sins, for which the Americans are repaying them with "unconcealed coldness, reserve and resentment."

Here is a voice from the European side, from the West German paper KOLNER STADT-ANZEIGER; "Must we display solidarity with America to order? The crisis in Iran is explosive and does not lend itself to calculation and computation.... Therefore the problem of solidarity between the West and the United States is now a delicate affair which requires caution. The fact that the American President and his closest collaborators are exerting unusually massive pressure on the Europeans does not help matters. It would be better if politicians on both sides of the Atlantic tried to understand each other's interests better."

Understand each other's interests? The New York DAILY NEWS is one of the papers which recognizes and understands no interests other than American ones. "Well the United States does have allies, there's no denying it!" It grieves sarcastically. "Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has raised callouses on his knees through imploring them to support diplomatic and economic sanctions against Iran....and Western Europe and Japan come with hypocritical accusations against the illegal actions of Iran but refuse to back up their words with deeds."

The French newspaper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS seems to reply to this: "Having burned their fingers as a result of the zigzags of American diplomacy which is striving to play a leading role in the international arena, and also desirous of maintaining supplies of oil from Iran and not appearing too fettered to Washington in the eyes of the Third World, the countries of the Nine have for the time being limited themselves to adopting statements concerning Iranian-American relations. The countries of the Common Market have fallen between the devil and the deep blue sea. On the one hand they are being subjected to pressure from the United States and on the other, Iran is exerting pressure on them, in particular on the question of oil supplies."

Many such quotations can be cited, but even these quite fully convey both the content and the nuances of what the London SUNDAY TIMES calls the "threshold of the most serious crisis in the whole postwar period" in relations between the United States and its main allies. It is difficult to say whether it is "the most serious" or not, but it certainly is serious, and this crisis has not emerged on a level, vacant lot. [paragraph continues]

It crowns a whole pyramid of disagreements which have accumulated especially of late, when the U.S. allies, while not casting doubt in principle on the role of the United States as the military-political leader of the West and the unique guarantor of world capitalism, are increasingly doubtful as to where the present U.S. administration is "leading", whether it is treating its role absolutely responsibly and whether its actions are not leading to a great calamity. Here is what the London paper THE OBSERVER, laying the drama on thick, writes about the present situation: Carter has "involved the United States in the process of escalating sanctions, which if it goes out of control, could turn into an international catastrophe."

Washington is doubly furious because the anti-Iranian sanctions story is starting to develop hot on the heels of another story--when Western Europe and Japan, despite pressure, by no means fully backed America in the sanctions which President Carter used against the Soviet Union in connection with the events in Afghanistan. For the second time in the last 3 months the question is being raised in Washington: Are the partners ready to follow the Americans through fire and water? The partners, while giving verbal assent, groan and hesitate in practical actions, dig in their heels, and, governed by their own interests, as far as possible sabotage the cause of "Atlantic solidarity" as it is understood across the ocean.

It is difficult and risky to generalize about the policy of states, especially different states, but it seems that the "lack of understanding" is based on a question which the allies, in one way or another, are asking Washington: Solidarity for the sake of what? For the sake of intensifying confrontation or preserving detente which has been jeopardized? For the sake of Jimmy Carter's reelection to the presidency or for the sake of international stability which is after all more important than the chase for votes in America? In this case when it is a question of attitudes toward Washington's anti-Soviet sanctions, America's partners are obviously protecting not only their own economic links with the Soviet Union which are broader and firmer than the United States', but also the fate of detente to which there is no alternative. They are thereby defending their own national interests and in a more considered way than American politicians who are lashed by the storm of egoism of the election year and who consider that the world must adapt itself to America which is settling its domestic accounts. In the second case when it is a question of new sanctions by Carter against Iran, U.S. supporters want to spare themselves confrontation with countries of the Third World, defending their own share of independence in their approach to them, valuing such an important leement of their relations with them as oil supplies for the West and Japan from the Near and Middle East region.

Why does Carter "invite" others to join his anti-Iranian sanctions? During the period of a little over a year which has elapsed since the downfall of the shah's regime in Iran and even prior to the story of the hostages which began in November, the whole structure not only of military-strategic and political links but also of economic links between the United States and Iran has collapsed. As a result, so it is reported, the present volume of American exports to Iran amounted in February to less than $2 million, 60 times less than under the shah. Under these conditions the economic boycott introduced by the U.S. administration cannot have any effect apart from a purely symbolic one, if Western European countries and Japan, which have maintained a quite high degree of trade and economic exhange with Iran, do not join it. [paragraph continues]

The rupture of diplomatic relations between Washington and Tehran in the situation which has been created is not of any serious significance either: Relations were reduced to nothing. So here too Washington cannot manage without allies' support.

Meanwhile, although oil exports from the country while under-going the stormy stages of the revolution have been very considerably reduced over the past year, Iran still remains a very important supplier for Japan and Western Europe. In any case, Iranian oil will sooner of later come back onto the world market in the same volume as before and America's allies do not want to be cut off from it as a penalty for following Washington's course. Finally, as is easy to guess, it is not only Iran that figures in their considerations (and not only the American hostages in Tehran), but also the whole oil-producing region of the Persian Gulf. The Americans take only one-fifth of the oil they import from there, Western Europe--two-thirds, and Japan--three-fourths.

America's partners depend on Middle East oil much more than does America, but in no way do they believe that the U.S. military presence and the attendant military tension guarantee an uninterrupted oil flow and regular passages of tankers and super-tankers. The U.S. "big stick", held in readiness in the Persian Gulf region, which threatens to hit the Iranian people, does not send them into raptures. Even if they welcomed the "Carter doctrine" it was out of diplomatic politeness! After all, oil comes from those countries where the aforementioned doctrine was treated at the very least, skeptically. And, in general, Western Europe and Japan would prefer not to share with their senior ally the increasingly heavy burden of U.S. mistakes and miscalculations. In actual fact why should they pay for Washington's policy of 100 percent support for the shah, which turned out to have such consequences? Why should they put up with the complications which result for them in the Near and Middle East from the U.S. gamble on Israel and now also on As-Sadat--against the legitimate demands of the Palestinians, against the will of the Arab peoples?

As we can see, the present disagreements arose on a quite broad front. How will the affair continue? Washington lets it be understood that its patience has been exhausted not only by the attitude of Iran but also by that of America's allies. When appealing for anti-Iranian solidarity, Brzezinski quite purposely said that "such solidarity possibly will make the use of other measures unnecessary." Behind these words lies a threat: either--or. "Other measures"--from the set of direct military actions being held in readiness such as mining Iran's oil ports, a naval blockade, or some other measure with participation of air force pilots, sailors and marines, who have been "hanging around" biding their time. By brandishing the stick over its allies too, Washington is letting it be understood that the crude surgery of U.S. military interference could, even from the viewpoint of economic interests, cost them more than obeying America would. In effect it is blackmail: If you do not follow us voluntarily we will force you, and in any case we will remove the advantage which you are counting on by committing your apostasy.

Thus words from the vocabulary of those who are fond of confrontation are finding their way with increasing frequency even into the language with which America speaks to its bosom friends.

Lavrenov: Harm to EEC

ID221235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 80 p 5

[Article by Vladimir Lavrenov: "Slipping on the Noose"]

[Text] The White House has demanded that the EEC states adopt "sanctions" against Iran and has given a specific deadline for their implementation: In the last 10 days of April they are to formulate a plan of measures to bring economic pressure to bear on that country, and in May they are to break off diplomatic relations with it.

The EEC countries have not yet replied to this ultimatum--their stance will be defined, it has become known, at the "Nine's" conference in Luxembourg. Nevertheless political commentators in the West are already pointing out that none of the EEC states reacted enthusiastically to the Washington administration's appeal. In fact, the crude American pressure on the West European countries has perplexed them somewhat. The Common Market countries have run into a problem: how to reconcile their desire to pursue an independent policy with the "Atlantic solidarity" demanded of them by the United States.

The public in West European countries is realizing more and more that the U.S. anti-Iranian campaign is not a chance factor in American foreign policy but is one link in a well thought-out course. It has been manifested in the deterioration of relations with the Soviet Union, in the delay in the ratification of the SALT II treaty, the organization of military maneuvers on the Cuban coast and the decision to deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe which has acutely poisoned the international atmosphere on our continent.

Moreover, the relevant departments and ministries of the EEC countries are now estimating the potential economic costs of participation in anti-Iranian actions. This aspect is of special concern to the "Nine." According to the "Common Market" executive body's assessment, its countries expect in the current year negligible production growth, a further increase in inflation and unemployment, which already stands at over 6 million, an increase in the foreign trade deficit and a further fall in the population's living standard. Why then should the EEC participate in reprisals against Iran which might mean an end to Iranian oil supplies? Why implement trade restrictions against Iran when, as Bonn admits, this may be "more damaging to the EEC's foreign trade than that of its transatlantic partner!" Of course none of this is in Western Europe's interests.

As the New York TIMES recently wrote, "The root of the whole problem, in the view of many European leaders, is that they are being asked to rush headlong into actions which accord neither with their true interests nor with the interests of the community as a whole."

The punitive measures announced by the United States against Iran are new evidence of Washington's inability to conduct international affairs using the generally accepted norms in relations between states. Time will tell whether the EEC countries follow in the wake of this policy or take a more reasonable course.

EEC OBSTRUCTS PROGRESS IN TALKS WITH CEMA

ID22111/ Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 16, 16 Apr 80 p 24

[A. Chertanov article: "What Is Delaying the Talks"]

[Text] The talks on concluding an agreement between CEMA and the EEC, which have been in progress for several years now, have entered a new phase. The first session of an editorial group of experts set up during the Moscow meeting last November between CEMA secretary N. V. Faddeyev and W. Haferkamp, vice president of the Commission of the European Communities [EC], met in Geneva in March of this year. Work began on the text of the agreement. Some formulas were agreed on. Although in the opinion of both sides the chosen method of work proved useful and effective, the editorial group has still not succeeded in overcoming the differences which exist on basic issues.

This in itself surprised nobody. After all, it could hardly be expected that in 2 days of work in Geneva the experts would be able to do what more high-ranking delegations had not succeeded in doing over several years. Haferkamp himself, after the November meeting in Moscow, explained to representatives of the press: The editorial group has been set the task of drafting the text of those points where the sides' positions are already relatively close.

It is something else which is surprising. At the end of March Haferkamp sent the CEMA secretary a telegram which explains the slow progress at the talks exclusively in terms of the allegation that the CEMA representatives were not prepared to seek mutually acceptable solutions. On these grounds the EEC in essence came out against holding the next meeting between the CEMA secretary and the EC Commission vice president planned for this April. Moreover the EEC makes the continuation of the talks condition on the categorical demand that CEMA depart from its principled positions on fundamental questions of the future agreement.

This stance is perplexing in its obvious groundlessness and illogicality. The EEC has repeatedly had the opportunity during the talks to see for itself that the CEMA side has a sincere desire to achieve the speediest elaboration of an agreement which would suit all participants. This is indicated in particular by the work methods proposed by CEMA and by the significant changes which it introduced, by way of compromise, into those articles of its original draft which caused the greatest objections. Finally, is not evidence in favor of a constructive stance on the part of CEMA provided by the fact that EEC proposals on a number of articles in the agreement were adopted at the recent Geneva meeting?

Unfortunately people in Brussels apparently have a different approach to the talks. Having put forward from the first a draft which it knows to be unacceptable to the other side, the EC Commission then introduced insignificant amendments of a cosmetic nature, so to speak. Now the draft prepared in this way is being presented as the result of EEC concessions.

Nor is the successful process of talks promoted by the clearly biased attitude toward the [negotiating] partners displayed by EEC representatives. The community will not discuss on a multilateral basis any really serious question of trade and economic cooperation and seeks to reduce the entire content of the agreement with CEMA to the exchange of information in spheres of secondary importance. It is asserted that the EEC has never had dealings with groups of countries but only with individual states. [paragraph continues]

Yet there are many instances in Common Market practice where the community has held talks with groupings of countries on the broadest range of questions. In early March in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur an agreement was signed on cooperation between the EEC and the ASEAN countries. This agreement, of the so-called framework type, defines the forms and terms of relations on a multilateral basis in the sphere of trade and economic cooperation, science and technology, the power industry, environmental conservation, transportation, communications and so forth. A joint committee is being created to help implement the agreement and its main aims. A similar agreement is now being prepared in Brussels with the Andean Group, which includes Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.

Why does Brussels approach relations with CEMA and the CEMA countries from a standpoint which clearly contradicts the practice of its relations with other groups of countries and their economic associations? Is it not because some people in the Common Market are pursuing goals in relations with the socialist community which have nothing in common with the interests of cooperation in Europe? Apparently reflecting such sentiments, the UK weekly THE ECONOMIST wrote that "the EEC hoped to sign a bland and useless paper with CEMA and then conclude bilateral agreements with individual East European countries" with a view to obtaining certain economic and political advantages for itself.

It is hard to imagine that this calculation is taken seriously in Brussels. The EC Commission can hardly fail to be aware that attempts to dictate its will to the socialist community are doomed to failure and that the talks only have a chance of success on condition that the participants converse on an equal footing.

This April the CEMA Executive Committee reasserted its readiness to continue a constructive dialogue with the EEC to elaborate mutually acceptable solutions. It is also prepared to conclude an agreement which would promote the development of equitable and mutually advantageous trade and economic cooperation both between countries belonging to CEMA and the EEC and between the two organizations in the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Here was stressed the need for constructive steps on the EEC's part too.

The other day the CEMA secretary sent the vice president of the EC Commission a telegram expressing the readiness for further work to draft a joint agreement at any level, including, as Haferkamp proposes, at the level of experts. Of course, CEMA proceeds here from the assumption that Burssels will also display the readiness to constructively seek ways of resolving the issues of dispute. Thus it is now up to the Common Market.

PRAVDA LANDS FRUITFUL DEVELOPMENT OF FRANCO-SOVIET TIES

LD221521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 80 p 4

[Report by V. Sedykh, member of the USSR-France Society presidential council: "USSR-France: Tested by Time"]

[Excerpt] Paris-Moscow--French people have not forgotten that in the mid-sixties President de Gaulle responded to the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries by in his turn advocating international detente and cooperation. On his initiative France, while remaining within the Atlantic alliance, withdrew from the NATO military organization and cast off the heavy armor, cut according to the transatlantic yardstick, that had fettered it. [paragraph continues]

After this the country's actions in the international arena could become more independent and flexible. In the summer of 1966 President de Gaulle paid an official visit to the USSR which was an important landmark in the development of Franco-Soviet cooperation and the strengthening of international detente.

French people also well remember Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's visits to their country and the distinguished Soviet guest's talks with Presidents G. Pompidou and V. Giscard d'Estaing. The Soviet-French summits were a powerful fillip to the further expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries and made a considerable contribution to deepening detente and consolidating peace.

It is not for nothing that people began to call the Soviet Union and France pioneers of detente. Their efforts made a great contribution to the convening and successful holding in summer 1975 of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which opened up before the continent's peoples new, unprecedented opportunities to live and work under conditions of lasting peace.

All the continent's peoples have begun to reap the first fruits of detente. Exchanges and ties in the most diverse spheres of human activity have been widely developed. But the main, most important result has been the fact that Europe's peoples have enjoyed the blessings of peace for 35 years.

"The interval between World War I and World War II was only 20 years," historian Michel Bloch told us. "The generation of Europeans born after the 1918 Armistice was consumed before it had time to leave any descendants. But the new generation of Europeans that appeared after the 1945 victory will soon be nursing its grandchildren. Thirty-five years of peace! Is it possible that all the people's efforts will prove to be in vain?"

French people's feelings are understandable; they have been watching with concern the recent deterioration in the international climate. In an interview with the newspaper SUD-OUEST French Premier Raymond Barre declared recently: "French people have serious grounds for concern, and I share their concern. Right now we are witnessing an increase in world tension in every sphere: diplomatic, economic and currency."

Some people in the West are trying to pin the responsibility for the present aggravation of tension on the USSR, particularly in view of the assistance the Soviet Union has given to Afghanistan at the request of that revolutionary country's legitimate government. The French call such attempts to lay blame at another's doorstep "seeking noon at four o'clock."

Indeed, you only have to leaf through a few newspapers and magazines dating from last fall to see for yourself that even back then, long before events in Afghanistan, a carefully organized headlong campaign of anti-Soviet hysteria had been mounted in Western countries. The true reasons for the resurrection of the myth of the notorious "Soviet threat" were soon revealed. The Pentagon and NATO needed to manipulate the public psychologically so it would be easier to foist on West European countries the dangerous plan to deploy American medium-range missiles on their territory.

While seeking to drag its West European NATO partners into a new round of the arms race, Washington is also trying to force them to support its present adventurist course in other spheres. Many French people deride the Carter administration's attempts to make West European athletes boycott the summer Olympics. Washington's unworthy methods against Iran also evoke a skeptical reaction in Paris. "Europe is not responding to Carter's calls to join in the American sanctions against Iran," LES ECHOES, organ of French business circles, wrote recently.

Under these conditions French people are giving increasing consideration to the possible consequences of Washington's self-seeking course, which is explained in particular by the election aims of the master of the White House. "People here used to say 'when Paris catches cold, all France sneezes,'" a Parisian journalist acquaintance told us with bitter irony. "Now some people want the whole world to shiver with Washington's election fever."

A typical article was published by the Paris weekly LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, which is a very long way from being sympathetic toward communism and the Soviet Union. The magazine notes that the increased East-West tension will produce new difficulties for the West European countries--France in particular--"which have gained greater economic advantages than the United States from detente." Here the weekly cites numerous instances of mutually advantageous ties between France and the Soviet Union, and also other socialist countries.

In the present tense and complex situation French official circles are seeking to act cautiously and circumspectly in the international arena. President Giscard d'Estaing and other French leaders are proclaiming the continuity of the country's foreign policy course, shaped under De Gaulle and Pompidou. It is a question above all of a policy of detente and cooperation--which accords with France's national interests and the cause of peace in Europe.

Paris is noting with particular satisfaction the normal functioning of the mechanism of Soviet-French cooperation created as a result of many years of mutual efforts by the two countries. In the political sphere there are regular meetings between the two states' leaders, consultations between foreign ministers and bilateral contacts at other levels. In this connection the French capital rates highly the program for further developing USSR-French cooperation in favor of detente and peace signed as a result of a bilateral summit.

In the trade and economic and scientific and technical spheres the relevant joint commissions and other bilateral organs are successfully coordinating their work and meet regularly in session. As for the Soviet Union, it seeks to fulfill consistently and punctiliously the agreements signed with France. Our French interlocutors repeatedly expressed satisfaction with the fact that in 1978-1979 trade turnover between the two countries tripled compared with the previous 5 years. Barter trade is assuming particularly great significance.

Paris is also stressing that plans for scientific and technical cooperation between France and the USSR have clearly begun to produce practical returns. The reference is to the peaceful use of nuclear power; medicine; color television; agriculture; environmental conservation; and space exploration. The offer to train a French cosmonaut to take part in a future flight by a Soviet spaceship has evoked great interest among French people.

Paris believes that the long-term program for deepening economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the USSR and France in 1980-1990, signed last April, opens up favorable prospects.

Despite certain difficulties, fruitful work is also being carried out in the huge sphere of cultural relations and between the two countries' public organizations. A program for cooperation between the USSR-France Society and France-USSR Society in 1980 was signed recently in Paris. Among other measures, this program envisages jubilee celebrations to mark the 110th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's birth and also the 35th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

French people are not losing their optimism in the present complex international situation. They realize how much the strengthening of Soviet-French cooperation, concord and collaboration can continue to offer the cause of detente and peace in Europe. People of goodwill in France favor that approach. They hope that the 35th peaceful spring on the European Continent will bring with it a warming of the international climate.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON GROMYKO VISIT TO FRANCE

Departure From Moscow

LD231018 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, left for Paris for a visit today at the invitation of the French Government.

At the airport, he was seen off by Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Pegov, chief of a section of the CPSU Central Committee; deputy foreign ministers of the USSR; and other officials. (Boissatou), the French charge d'affaires in the Soviet Union, was among those seeing Gromyko off.

Arrival in Paris

LD231300 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Paris, April 23, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, arrived here on a visit today at the invitation of the French Government At the airport, decorated with flags of the USSR and France, Andrey Gromyko was welcomed by State Secretary at the French Foreign Ministry Oliver Stirn, Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry Bruno de Leusse and other officials. The welcoming party included the USSR Ambassador in France Stepan Chervonenko.

Dmitriyev Comment

LD231140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The visit to France of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, begins today. Our correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev reports from Paris: The commentary of the Paris paper LE MATIN devoted to this event is typical entitled: "Paris Continues the Dialogue With Moscow." The continuation of this dialogue with the aim of clarifying the positions of the USSR and France on the most pressing international problems and the development of bilateral relations is of particularly great significance in the current international situation which has become more complex, as is known, as a result of the fact that the Washington administration is whipping up the arms race, of the attacks by aggressive circles of imperialism, first and foremost the United States, on the policy of detente, and of the NATO plan adopted under pressure on the deployment of U.S. missiles in the countries of West Europe.

Political circles in France consider it inadmissible to involve its ties of alliance with America with the policy of diktat and blackmail to which Washington has been resorting increasingly recently. Referring to this, Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet recently stated in a speech to the National Assembly during a debate on the country's foreign policy that solidarity with America by no means prevents France from adopting independently the decisions which at any time it considers to be most appropriate and effective.

On the eve of the visit of the Soviet foreign minister to France the successful development of cooperation between our two countries in different spheres, the regularity of talks and consultations of state figures, and first and foremost the summit meetings which play a leading role in the cause of deepening this cooperation are being noted here with great satisfaction. [paragraph continues]

In spite of the deterioration in the international situation Soviet-French relations have not been subjected to the influence of considerations of the political situation. Confrontation, to which Washington is calling its allies, is by no means regarded here as a way of solving international problems. The French realize that detente, whose origin was in Moscow and Paris, remains the sole way of preserving peace in Europe and throughout the world. So they welcome the coming talks in Paris and express their support for a line of cooperation with the Soviet Union which has shown its vital force and permanent significance for both our countries and for international security.

French Reportage

For French reportage on Andrey Gromyko's official visit to France, see the 23 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

M. PONOMAREV HITS ANTIDETENTE THRUST OF BRITISH WHITE PAPER

LD221051 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Apr 80 p 3

[Col M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Commentary: "'White Paper' on Black Plans"]

[Text] There is increasingly widespread debate in Britain over the government's White Paper on defense submitted to parliament a few days ago. Progressive circles are sharply critical of the program of militarist preparations set out in it. The military spending which the conservatives have announced for the next fiscal year is real folly, J. Richardson, Labor member of the House of Commons, declared. At the same time the country's reactionary circles have evaluated the government's intentions in the military sphere as an attempt to "restore Britain's former greatness."

Such contradictory assessments of the White Paper result from the diametrically opposed positions of those who are participating in discussing it. Representatives of the peace-loving public see this document as an arrogant program the Thatcher government whose implementation is against the country's national interests and can lead only to a new twist of the arms race spiral. But those who are nostalgic for the imperial past regard this program as a means of increasing Britain's prestige in the world arena.

What, then, is the essence of the government's proposals set forth in the White Paper? It provides, above all, for the modernization of the British nuclear forces. It is proposed initially to improve the guidance system of the Polaris missiles housed in nuclear-powered submarines and then to replace these missiles with new ones--the Trident I. At the same time measures are planned to deploy 160 nuclear-tipped American cruise missiles on British territory.

The White Paper also sets forth extensive plans to improve conventional types of weapons. For the ground forces the chieftain tanks will be modernized, and the new Challenger tank destined for the British Army of the Rhine will go into production. It is planned to develop the MBT-90 tank, which in the coming decade is to replace the types currently existing.

The air force will also be modernized. A new modification of the Harrier VTOL aircraft will be adopted. It is planned to develop new tactical fighters and new airborne weapons systems.

A further broadening of the British Navy's combat potential is envisaged. The aircraft carrier Invincible has just been commissioned. It is the first of a series of new ships of this class--the biggest to be built in Britain over the past quarter-century. New destroyers and other ships will be handed over to the navy. Helicopters are being equipped with British-made nuclear depth charges.

Following the U.S. example, a brigade is being set up to operate "outside the NATO sphere," that is, to interfere in any part of the globe--in the Persian Gulf, for example. Aircraft and ships will be deployed in certain "hot spots" and weapon dumps created for this brigade.

A special section of the White Paper concerns Britain's CBW preparations. Commenting on this section, the guardian wrote that "the Ministry of Defense is studying the question of the possible development of chemcial weapons of an offensive nature which could be used from aircraft and also in conjunction with bombs and artillery shells."

The war preparations planned by the British Government require huge funds. The White Paper provides for further sharp growth in the country's military spending. In fiscal 1980-1981 it is to increase by 900 million pounds sterling and reach 10.8 billion pounds.

Such colossal military spending, as well as the other measures discussed in the White Paper, does not and cannot serve the interests of strengthening Britain's security. London's siding with the American administration's current bellicose policy and the activation of militarist preparations pose a serious threat to the British people themselves. At the same time the Tory government's policy is undermining the security of other peoples of Europe, whose fundamental interests demand the consolidation of detente, not actions designed to wreck it.

PROTOCOL ON STATE BOUNDARY SIGNED WITH TURKEY

LD222328 Moscow TASS in English 1412 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--A Soviet-Turkish protocol on the passage of the state border along the dam that is being built jointly by the USSR and Turkey on the border river Akhuryan was signed here today. The construction of the dam will make it possible to additionally irrigate thousands of hectares of land on the territory of both countries.

BRIEFS

PORTUGUESE DAYS IN ALMA-ATA--A ceremony opening the Portuguese days in the USSR was held in Alma-Ata on 17 April. (Kaliyev), Presidium chairman of the Kazakh Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, addressed the ceremony. Present at the ceremony was a delegation of the Portugal-USSR Society headed by Prof Armando di Carvalho, presidential council member of the society. The latter noted that the days will further strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, will promote contacts with the USSR-Portugal Society and the Kazakh Friendship Society. Portuguese artists gave a concert. Portuguese modern drawings, photographs showing the 25 April 1974 events in Portugal, revolutionary posters and children's drawings have been shown in Alma-Ata. The Portuguese days in the USSR will last from 17 to 25 April. Portuguese public figures will meet workers, kolkhoz peasants and the intelligentsia. There will be concerts and lectures. The days will continue in Dzhambul and be concluded in Moscow. [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1511 GMT 17 Apr 80 AU]

COOPERATION WITH FRG TELEVISION--A protocol has been signed in Moscow on cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the West German Television and Radio Network ARD, expanding links between the two television and radio organizations. An exchange of television and radio material and the shooting of television programs on the most important events in the life of the Soviet Union and the FRG and on preparations for the 1980 Olympic Games are envisaged. The protocol was signed by Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and (Tyulner), director of ARD. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 18 Apr 80 LD]

PARS INTERVIEW WITH IRANIAN OIL MINISTER REPORTED

LD221418 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Tehran, April 22, TASS--Iranian Oil Minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'Infar said in an interview with the PARS agency today that the Iranian Government had decided not to sell oil to the countries which, following the example of the United States, take a hostile stand towards Iran.

The ministers said that in the course of the past year Iran had increased its currency reserves from ten to fifteen billion dollars through returns from oil exports. He said that Iran would not sell oil to the countries, joining economic sanctions against Iran, and would reduce oil output.

MOSCOW PERISAN NOTES END OF SOVIET-IRANIAN ECONOMIC TALKS

NC231230 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Talks between Soviet and Iranian experts on problems pertaining to economic and technical cooperation ended in Tehran on 20 April. In a protocol signed at the end of these talks, the two sides confirmed their readiness to expand joint economic relations. At the same time, the participants in these talks initialled the draft protocol of the Ninth Meeting of the Permanent Committee of Soviet-Iranian Economic Cooperation and stressed that this cooperation will expand in the future too, on the basis of guaranteeing joint benefits, friendship and good-neighborliness, equality and noninterference in each other's domestic affairs, and respect for each other's sovereign rights. The ninth meeting of Soviet-Iranian commission is expected to meet in Moscow at the end of May, this year.

IZVESTIYA: BAGHDAD MEETING HELD TO MARK USSR-IRAQ TREATY ANNIVERSARY

LD231151 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendship Meeting"]

[Text] Baghdad, 14 April--A meeting has taken place in the Iraqi capital dedicated to the eighth anniversary of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Iraq. Present in the hall, which was decorated with the Soviet and Iraqi flags; were: Na'im Haddad, member of the national leadership of the Ba'th Party and Iraqi deputy prime minister; 'Abd al-Fatah Muhammad Amin, member of the regional leadership of the Ba'th Party and chairman of the Union of Societies for Friendship with the Peoples of Foreign Countries; Ja'far Qasim Hammudi, member of the regional leadership of the Ba'th Party, and the visiting Soviet delegation led by P.M. Avdeyenko, deputy chairman of the board of the Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society and deputy minister of the USSR Petroleum-Refining and Petro-Chemical Industry.

Touching in his speech on the development of Iraqi-Soviet relations, Muhammad Amin noted the commonality of aims of the two countries in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

The head of the Soviet delegation P.M. Avdeyenko spoke in reply.

PRAVDA VIEWS 'DIFFICULTIES, OBSTACLES' FACING 'PROGRESSIVE' SYRIA

LD221151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 80 p 4

[Special correspondents K. Geyvandov and P. Demchenko dispatch: "Damascus' Pulse"]

[Excerpt] Damascus, April--Damascus in the evening with its bright shop windows and neon advertisements seems a completely untroubled city. However, newspaper articles, radio and television programs remind you that this is only an outward impression. The country's southwest province has been occupied by the Israelis since 1967 and more than 100,000 of its inhabitants, expelled by the invaders, have become refugees. Syria is struggling actively to eliminate the consequences of the Israeli aggression in the Near East.

Deputy Foreign Minister N. Qaddur defined the country's policy as follows: We want a just and lasting peace based, first, on the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories--Jerusalem included and--second, on the granting to the Palestinian people of the right to self-determination and to create their own independent state.

That is why the Syrian Government resolutely rejected the separate Camp David agreements between the United States, Israel and Egypt as failing to satisfy either the first or the second condition of the peaceful settlement in the Near East that Syria is fighting for. Syria is an active member of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation (this also includes Algeria, Libya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO) and believes that at the present stage the front must move on from measures to isolate Egypt and Israel politically and economically, which have already been fulfilled, and condemnation of the Camp David agreements to more vigorous action and the elaboration of an effective alternative to those agreements.

It should be said that Syria also adopts a firm stand on many other international issues, condemning, for instance, the clamorous anti-Afghan campaign by the United States and its partners. "We cannot understand," N. Qaddur said, "why the United States is brandishing the banner of defender of Islam in Afghanistan while at the same time showing hostility to the Islamic regime in Iran and giving extensive economic, military and political support to Israel."

The United States and the reactionary forces that obey it are constantly pressuring Syria to force the country to change its stance. As we were told by Fadl al-Ansari, member of the Ba'th Party National Command, it is a question of blatant external pressure and the organization of plots inside the country. Thus several acts of terrorism have been perpetrated and anti-government leaflets recently circulated in Aleppo and Hama. The authorities were forced to take retaliatory measures, discovering in the process weapons stores, an underground printing plant and so forth.

In short, in continuing its progressive course Syria is having to surmount difficulties and obstacles and to resolve complex problems. A considerable positive role in this struggle is played by the progressive national front which includes, along with the Ba'th Party, the Syrian Communist Party and other patriotic organizations.

The front has become more active recently. Cooperation among patriotic forces helps both the struggle against domestic conspiracies and the repulsion of external imperialist pressure. It helps develop the country and rally a people who have successfully defended and strengthened their independence for one-third of a century.

VASILYEV COMMENTS ON INCREASING ROLE OF ARAB STEADFASTNESS FRONT

LD221343 Moscow Pravda in Russian 19 Apr 80 p 5

[Aleksey Vasilyev "Commentator's Column": "In a United Front"]

[Text] The fourth conference of heads of states belonging to the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front--Algeria, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Libya and the PLO--has taken place in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. The front was created to combat the Israeli-Egyptian deal achieved under U.S. auspices and directed against the Arab peoples' interests.

The Tripoli conference took place against the background of new attempts by Washington to break the deadlock over the Camp David agreements by foisting so-called "automomy" on the Palestinians according to Israeli demands. The United States is in a hurry to obtain the opportunity to increase its use of Israel and Egypt in implementing its interventionist designs in the Near East, in particular in the Persian Gulf zone.

In the face of the dangerous U.S. plans the participants in the Tripoli meeting strengthened their unity. They adopted a number of important concrete decisions. Leading organs of the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front are being created--the supreme leadership, the political leadership and the military command. A political committee is also being formed which will include the foreign ministers of the states belonging to the front and the leader of the PLO Political Department.

The time which has elapsed since the front's creation has shown that its participants are the true vanguard of those forces in the Near East arena which are opposed to U.S. neocolonialist, adventurist actions, favor the strengthening of the Arab peoples' genuine independence, oppose the continuing Israeli aggression and favor the liberation of the Israeli-occupied Arab lands. The front's members were the initiators of the boycott of the As-Sadat regime and led the majority of Arab countries in this.

Arab countries are well aware who is their ally in the struggle against imperialism and its henchmen in the Near East. Members of the front, the conference's final declaration says, will strive to further develop and strengthen their relations in various spheres with the socialist community countries headed by the Soviet Union.

The mechamism of the Camp David deal, which is intended, in particular to draw one Arab country after another into Washington's orbit, is not working. The National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front is playing an ever increasing role in rebuffing the designs of imperialism and Zionism in the Near East.

TYSOVSKIY DISCUSSES ISRAELI WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE U.S. BASES

LD222341 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Moscow, April 22, TASS--The TASS commentator, Yuriy Tysovskiy, writes:

In the last three days world agencies carried three dispatches from Israel:

--The United States plans to conclude a joint defence agreement with Israel;

--The Pentagon is going to hold joint exercises of the American and Israeli armies whose date and venue will be determined later;
--Israeli Premier Begin expressed willingness to make available all war bases on the territory of his country to the United States. The very same Begin, interviewed by an American ABC correspondent, did not conceal that this step by Tel Aviv was openly anti-Soviet in nature. He advocated a United States military presence not only in the Middle East but also in any region of the world to counter the mythical "Soviet menace".

What does Begin concretely sell to his transatlantic patrons?

The answer is plain: Practically everything the United States might want--though this essentially means renunciation of the status of a sovereign and independent state. The American Army is authorized to land planes of the U.S. Airforce on Israeli air fields, United States ships, without preliminary agreement, can enter Israeli sea ports and naval bases, use of the military infrastructure, financial and technical benefits on the part of Israel. In doing so, Begin set only one single "condition" to Jimmy Carter--to urgently consider the question of the use of Israeli bases and reply before the Washington visit of Defence Minister Weizman next week.

Why such a hurry? The reason is simple: Begin is worried over the mounting condemnation of Israel's expansionist policy and the higher prestige of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Western capitals, where dissatisfaction is being voiced over Washington's pro-Israeli course. That is why Israel's Zionist leadership is prepared for everything to make maximum use of the military-political weight of the United States: to cover under the American military umbrella not only its own territory but also the lands seized from the Arabs and to avoid any concessions on the Middle East problem. And Begin considers that sovereignty can be abandoned for the sake of retention of the Jordan West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Some time ago, at the dawn of the state of Israel, Foreign Minister Sharet said that the United States should not convert Israel into an anti-Soviet springboard in the Middle East. Times, however, change and today Tel Aviv depends on Washington literally on everything: from arms shipments and financial handouts to political and diplomatic support. This was borne out by the open admission of a former foreign minister, Dayan:

"If I am offered, he said, to choose between a situation in which the United States helps us as a result of which we will be firmly tied with it and compelled to respond to its wishes or a situation in which we would be free like a swallow in the sky, but without economic aid and political support from the United States, without American arms, I would prefer 'slavery' which would give us in fact greater freedom." In other words, freedom of action in imposing its terms of a Middle East "settlement" upon the Arabs.

That is why political commentators regard Begin's latest proposals as fully in keeping with the interests of Tel Aviv's Zionist top clique which is not averse to make Israel the 51st American state in the Middle East.

EGYPTIAN PROGRESSIVE PARTY PUBLISHES DECLARATION

LD212139 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Cairo, April 21, TASS--The news bulletin of the National Progressive (left) Party AL-TAKADDUM has published the general political declaration that was adopted by the First Congress of the National Progressive Party held here recently. One of the main tasks set by the National Progressive Party, the declaration says, is the struggle against the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace within the framework of the Camp David agreements. With these aims in view the party will strive to establish a broad front of opposition forces represented by different sections of Egyptian society and opposing the present policy of the government and the ruling National Democratic Party.

After discussing the problem of democracy, the declaration says, the congress delegates came to the conclusion that "democracy" now practised in Egypt is purely formal in character and has been placed at the service of the parasitic sections of society. The authorities openly infringe civil liberties and the principles of constitutional legality. The congress delegates sharply criticised the government's economic "open door" policy, stressing that this policy has resulted in an unprecedented polarisation of Egyptian society and impoverishment of the masses.

The NPP congress, the declaration says, took a stand against various privileges granted to foreign capital and stressed the need to oppose in every way the "quiet expansion" of Israel which seeks under cover of "normalisation" of relations with Egypt, to fulfill its long-cherished expansionist dream which it failed to realise by force of arms. In the foreign policy field, the delegates pointed to the need for improving relations with the Soviet Union and all countries of the socialist community. They also expressed determination to compaign together will all the peaces of the world against the cold war and the arms race. In conclusion of the general political declaration the congress urges all the national forces of the country to press for a replacement of the present cabinet with a new provisional government in which different national democratic trends would be represented, new elections for the People's Assembly, abrogation of the emergency laws and an end to all encroachments on the freedoms of Egyptian citizens.

ALGERIAN FINANCE MINISTER MEETS WITH SKACHKOV IN USSR

LD222350 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Finance Minister Mohamed Hadj Yala, who is currently in the Soviet Union, was received by Semen Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The talks dealt with the development of economic and technical cooperation between Algeria and the Soviet Union.

BRIEFS

TASS-MAP AGREEMENT--Moscow, April 22, TASS--An agreement was signed here today between TASS and the Moroccan news agency MAGHREB ARAB PRESS (MAP) on cooperation in the field of dissemination of news and joint operation of communication lines. The new agreement provides for an expansion of cooperation between the two agencies which was based on an agreement concluded in 1965. In particular, provisions are made for the renting of a two-way communication line between Moscow and Rabat. The agreement was signed for TASS by Director General Sergey Losev and for MAP by Director General Abdelhalil Fenjiro. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 22 Apr 80 LD]

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN GREET ZIMBABWE LEADERS ON INDEPENDENCE

LD221525 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 80 Morning Edition p 1

[Text of congratulations message from L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin to President Canaan Banana and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe on the proclamation of Zimbabwe's independence]

[Text] To President of the Republic of Zimbabwe Canaan Banana and Prime Minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe Robert Mugabe.

On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet Government, the people of our country and on our behalf, we send to you and to the entire people of Zimbabwe sincere congratulations on the occasion of the proclamation of your country's independence and good wishes of success in building a new life.

The victory of the people of Zimbabwe in their heroic struggle against colonial and racialist oppression, a victory won by them under the leadership of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front with the support of the progressive forces of the whole world, has written a bright new page in the history of Africa's liberation from the fetters of colonialism and racialism. The Soviet Union has invariably sided with the people of Zimbabwe and displayed, in word and deed, solidarity with its liberation struggle of many years.

Following a peaceable Leninist foreign policy and being guided in its relations with other states by the principles of equality and mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, the Soviet Union solemnly announces its recognition of the Republic of Zimbabwe as a sovereign independent state and is ready to establish diplomatic relations with it and to exchange diplomatic missions at ambassadorial level.

We express the hope that relations of friendship and cooperation will develop between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Zimbabwe for the benefit of our peoples and in the interests of stronger peace and international security.

[signed] L. Brezhnev, A. Kosygin

ETHIOPIA ROUTS INVADING SOMALI FORCES

LD220919 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 80 p 5

[Correspondent A. Serbin dispatch: "Ethiopian Press Report"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 11 April--It is reported here that last month Ethiopian Army units on the eastern and southern fronts routed groups of the Somali regular armed forces which had invaded Ethiopian territory. It follows from the report that these groups penetrated 50-80 km deep into Ethiopian territory.

During combat operations in Harare and Bale provinces Ethiopian units captured a large quantity of weapons and ammunition supplied to Somalia by China, NATO countries, Egypt and other reactionary Arab circles. Movie shots showing prisoners and military trophies were shown on Addis Ababa television yesterday.

It is noteworthy that Somalia's growing aggressiveness toward neighboring African states coincides in time with statements by President Siad Barre, and by American officials on plans for the extensive use of Somali territory as a U.S. military bridgehead in the Indian Ocean and Red Sea region.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON CPSU MAY DAY SLOGANS

D221109 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Greeting May Day"]

[Excerpts] The bright and joyful May Day holiday is approaching--the day of working people's international solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and for peace, democracy and socialism. By longstanding tradition it assembles millions of the world's people under the red banners of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Our motherland and the other socialist community countries confidently paving the way to a new life for mankind have become a great example to the working people of the whole world.

It is in a good frame of mind, with a sense of pride in the successes achieved during fulfillment of the 10th 5-Year Plan targets that Soviet people are preparing to greet the spring labor holiday. They link their achievements and plans for the future inextricably with Lenin's party. The CPSU Central Committee May Day Slogans published yesterday inspire the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia to new achievements for the prosperity of their socialist fatherland and the further strengthening of its might. The party's slogan meets with a broad desponse in their hearts:

Working people of the Soviet Union: Struggle for the fulfillment of the historic decision of the 25th CPSU Congress!

Realize more fully the potential of developed socialism!

The party Central Committee May Day slogans focus working people's attention on the solution of urgent economic tasks. For industrial workers this means the speedy assimilation and skillful utilization of production capacities. The introduction of new equipment and advanced technology, and meeting the national economy's requirements for fuel, energy, metal and raw material. For construction workers it means timely commissioning of capacities and projects and increased capital investment efficiency. For field and farmstead workers it means exemplary performance of spring field work. Increased production and sale to the state of grain, cotton, sugar beets, potatoes, vegtables and livestock products and consolidation of the stockraising feed base. The party draws attention to the importance of strengthening organization and discipline and the ability to prize working time and to manage the economy thriftily and efficiently.

The May Day slogans address warm words to working people in all sectors of the national economy, young men and women, women, soldiers, scientists, writers and artists, revolution, war and labor veterans taking an active part in the education of the younger generation, Pioneers and schoolchildren and this party attention inspires and lends them new strength.

Loyal to the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and international duty, the CPSU conveys fraternal greetings to the socialist countries communist and workers parties and peoples. With every passing year the world system of socialism develops and the unity and cohesion of the community countries' parties and peoples strengthens. The strength of this unity was convincingly manifested in the powerful support given to heroic Vietnam; our solidarity is also with the Lao and Kampuchean peoples and the courageous defenders of the April revolution gains in Afghanistan. The Soviet people are with those who cherish the interests of peace and social progress.

The peace-loving CPSU and Soviet state foreign policy course accords with the vital interests of the majority of the earth's population. The motherland of October consistently and persistently opposes the threat of a new world war and says a decisive "No!" to a new round of the arms race.

Soviet people's faith in their dear party is boundless. The unity of party and people and the ideological-political and social cohesiveness of Soviet society are a guarantee of our further achievements. Today, on the eve of May Day, the slogan rings out over the expanses of the Soviet land:

Under the Banner of Marxism-Leninism, Under the Leadership of the Communist Party--Forward to the Victory of Communism!

GRISHIN ATTENDS WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY IN MOSCOW

LD230342 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Summary] An endless stream of Moscovites and guests of the capital are paying tribute to Lenin.

A wreath has been laid at the mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich Lenin on behalf of the Moscow Gorkom and the Executive Committee of Mossoviet. The red ribbon bears the inscription: "To the founder of the Communist Party and the world's first socialist state!"

"The wreath-laying ceremony was attended by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom; secretaries and members of the Bureau of the Moscow Gorkom and Moscow Obkom; of CPSU rayons, veterans of the party of Lenin; and representatives of the Moscow working people.

"Heads of diplomatic vissions accredited in the Soviet Union--Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, the Republic of Cuba, the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, Mongolia, Poland and Czechoslovakia--also paid a visit to the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Mausoleum and laid wreaths."

GRISHIN PRESENTS USSR ORDERS TO WORKERS

LD230344 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, presented USSR orders and medals in the Kremlin today to a big group of builders of the Kalinin line and Gorkovskaya Station of the Moscow Lenin Metropolitan. In the name of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally, Comrade Grishin warmly and cordially congratulated the award winners and wished them new labor achievements for the good of our socialist homeland.

ROMANOV ATTENDS LENINGRAD MEETING ON LENIN

LD222342 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Excerpt] A delegation of workers and party veterans visited the Lenin monument at the Sholnyy. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, Vinogradov, veteran of the revolution, hero of socialist labor, and leaders of party and soviet organizations, representatives of the workers and young Leninists laid flowers at the base of the monument.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES LENIN FESTIVAL IN KIEV

LD230324 Kiev in Ukrainian to Europe 1800 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Text] Leaders of the Ukrainian Communist Party and the government of the republic, as well as representatives of the public, attended a ceremonial session for the Lenin jubilee, which took place in the Ukrainian Palace of Culture in Kiev today. A report was delivered by Vladimir Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. He noted in particular that Lenin devoted all his brilliant life and all his genius to the struggle for the revolutionary transformation of society, for the liberation of the working class and all working people, and for a bright future for mankind. This is what he taught our party and in what he saw its highest vocation.

The Communist Party firmly follows Lenin's will. The party exists for the people and all its work and selfless service for the people is inseparable from them. Lenin's teaching, Vladimir Shcherbitskiy continued, was of great significance, as was his work for the historical fate of the Ukrainian people, just as for all the peoples of our multinational fatherland.

Everything grand and excellent which makes Soviet Ukraine rich today grew and blossomed out of Lenin's wisdom, his words and deeds. The working people of our republic, within the friendly family of fraternal peoples, are rallied closely around the Communist Party and by their selfless work are implementing Lenin's immortal ideas.

Lays Flowers at Monument

AU231052 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] On 22 April the inhabitants of Kiev and visitors moved in an endless stream to the monument to Lenin. "It was 1230 hours when Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Borisenko, Vatchenko, Vashchenko, Gerasimov, Lyashko, Sokolov, Sologub, Titarenko, Fedorchuk, Kapto, Mozgovoy and Pogrebnyak; Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee members and candidate members; Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission members; Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers members; and deputies to the USSR and Ukrainian supreme soviets arrived at the monument. The republic's Communist Party and government leaders placed at the pedestal of the monument a basket with flowers."

Flowers were also laid at the monument by Ott, GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, who is now in Kiev, and by staff members of the consulates general of the socialist countries in Kiev.

KUNAYEV LAYS FLOWERS AT MONUMENT TO LENIN IN ALMA-ATA

AU230925 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Summary] The capital city of Kazakhstan was today festively decorated to mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of Lenin. Flags and slogans were hoisted over Lenin square. Soldiers, Komsomols and Pioneers mounted the guard of honor at the monument to Lenin.

"Today at 1000 Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee first secretary," Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau members and candidate members, and other officials laid at the monument to Lenin flowers on behalf of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers.

CSA DEPUTY CHIEF COMMENTS ON FIRST QUARTER RESULTS

LD191534 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 19 Apr 80

[Text] Today the USSR Central Statistical Administration published a statement on the results of fulfilment of the state plan for industry in the first quarter of 1980. At the microphone is Deputy Chief of the Central Statistical Administration Igor Aleksandrovich Pogosov:

[Begin Pogosov recording] As one can see from the statement, in the last period of the current year workers in industry have insured the further development of production. Growth in production compared with the corresponding period of last year constituted 5 percent. The plan for the volume of marketing industrial production has been overfulfilled. Planned tasks have been successfully undertaken and a significant increase in the volume of production has been shown by associations and enterprises of the ministries of the gas industry, instrument making, automation equipment and control systems, automotive and medical industries, machine building for animal husbandry and fodder production, chemical and petroleum machine building, the fish industry, and a number of others.

In the union republics the greatest growth in industrial production has been obtained in Moldavia, Azerbaijan, Estonia and Belorussia. The output of many types of products has increased. The plan of the first quarter in the output of oil and gas condensate, natural gas, coal, steel pipe production, instruments, means of automation and computer technology, oil equipment, motor vehicles, tractors, consumer goods, household goods, and many other types of goods has been overfulfilled.

The achievements of our industry could have been greater if all industrial branches, associations and enterprises had used their opportunities for raising production efficiency to a greater extent, and strictly adhered to planning and labor discipline.

Unfortunately, individual associations and enterprises have not fulfilled the tasks set in marketing products, growth in labor productivity, profits by lowering the cost of produced goods.

In the first quarter the output plan of rolled steel, synthetic resins and plastics, forging and pressing machines, freight waggons, cement, and textile goods has not been fulfilled. A serious lagging behind has been allowed to occur in the fulfilment of the production plan for sawn timber and paper.

The work of industry has been hampered by delays in commissioning fixed assets and production capacities for the manufacture of rolled steel, chemical and fuel industry projects, as well as shortcomings in the work of railway transportation.

The technical-economic indices for work by a number of industries has improved for the given period and the quality of goods produced has been improved. On the basis of growth in the technical standard of production, labor productivity in general in industry has increased by 4 percent. Because of this a growth of 4.5 percent in industrial output has been obtained and profits have increased.

The plan of supply of agricultural equipment, fuel and fertilizers for agriculture has been fulfilled during the first quarter. This is particularly important in conditions of the late spring which considerably reduces the time allowed for spring fieldwork.

Evaluating the results of industry's work in the first quarter it is possible to say that a good foundation has been laid for successful fulfilment of the 1980 plan. I would like to stress that a weighty contribution in the fulfilment of the annual plan has been made today, the day of the all-union Lenin subbotnik. The further development of competition, the discovery and utilization of existing reserves is the basis for a successful fulfilment of the annual plan and socialist obligations. [end recording]

DELAYS IN ROLLED METAL DELIVERIES EXPLAINED BY 'POOR WORK'

LD180955 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 5 Apr 80 p 2

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Replying to SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA": "'You Cannot Replace Metal With a Dispatch'"]

[Text] It was under this headline that SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA (No 76, 2 April this year) published a report on shortcomings in the construction of the Chernobyl AES. It dealt in particular with delays in rolled metal deliveries.

Ya. P. Kulikov, Ukrainian SSR minister of ferrous metallurgy, has told the editorial office that because of the poor work of the Dzerzhinskiy metallurgical plant in Dneprovsk delays had indeed occurred in shipping metal products. In January and the first half of February the ministry took steps to improve the plant's work, which made it possible to ship a full supply of 1,625 tons of rolled metal for the construction of the Chernobyl AES in line with the norm for the first quarter. In November of last year G. Gurskiy was dismissed from the post of director of the Dneprovsk's Dzerzhinskiy metallurgical plant for unsatisfactory leadership.

GORKIY CITY TO RECEIVE NUCLEAR-FUELED HEAT-SUPPLY STATION

LD210649 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 4 Apr 80 p 2

[Correspondent A. Minayev report: "AES Under Construction"]

[Text] Gorkiy--Construction of the country's first nuclear heat-supply station has begun on the outskirts of Gorkiy City. Its commissioning will largely resolve an important problem--that of providing a reliable heat supply to apartments. Approximately 1 million tons of ideal fuel will be saved annually when the Gorkiy AES is commissioned. A single loading of the reactor is sufficient to keep the station working for several years. The whole hot water supply system will be controlled by a central distribution point equipped with complex instruments and computor equipment. The importance of constructing the nuclear heat-supply station is also determined by the fact that the need to use small boilerhouses will disappear. Approximately 200 boilerhouses in the upland area of the city will cease to exist, and Gorkiy's air will become cleaner.

BRIEFS

VANINO-SAKHALIN NAVIGATION--Navigation between Vanino and the west coast of Sakhalin Oblast has reopened after the winter interval. The first vessels carrying various national economy cargo have arrived in Vanino from Uglegorsk and Boshnyakovo. Sakhalin Oblast has been shipping products of the woodworking and pulp and paper industries and fuel to the mainland. The flow of cargo to Sakhalin Oblast has also been increasing. This year cargo shipped to Sakhalin Oblast will account for a considerable quantity of all cargo shipped from Vanino. Vanino has already shipped nearly 2.5 million tons of industrial equipment, timber, wood chips and imported goods to Sakhalin Oblast. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 17 Apr 80 OW]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 20-22 APRIL

LD230110 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 20-22 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

20 April

Many farms and associations in Moldavia are today completing the sowing of sugar beets on the final hectares. Moldavian sugar beet growers have promised to harvest no less than 4 million tons. (0900 GMT)

Several thousand tractors have taken to the fields in Altayskiy Kray. The cereal growers of Kulunda and other grain areas have begun moisture retention work. Grain will occupy 5 million hectares in the kray this spring. It is planned to grow 7.5 million tons of grain, most of it in valuable strains of Siberian wheat this year. (1200 GMT)

21 April

The Pogranichnyy Sovkhoz is the first in Khabarovskiy Kray to complete the sowing of early grain crops. Mass field work has begun in southern Khakassiya. Wheat strains "Novosibirskaya-67, Buryatskay and Omskaya-9 are being sown. (0000 GMT)

In Khersonskaya Oblast in the south of the Ukraine sowing is taking place everywhere during the bright but brief periods which alternate with rain. This is the picture in Krymskaya and Khersonskaya oblasts. Currently, feed crops are mainly being sown. The sowing of early grains in the south, in Krymskaya Oblast, for instance, has been completed. It is in progress in Khersonskaya Oblast. Spring grains are not being sown on a large area and there is practically no need for resowing winter crops this year--they had a good winter. The major sowing--corn, sugar beets, sunflowers--lies ahead. The sowing of soya is being considerably extended in the southern Ukraine this year. Many farms net yields of 20-30 quintals per hectare of this crop, which, in terms of protein, is equivalent to 100 quintals of wheat ore more per hectare. Spare time is being used for fertilizer application and soil preparation. Selective harrowing has started in the southern rayons of Rostovskaya Oblast, where the spring is almost 1 month late. Machine operators in the Don are to sow 1.3 million hectares in early spring crops this year. A maximum of 2 days is being allocated to the sowing. (1100 GMT)

In Kirgiziya, the sowing of spring cerals has ended. The quality is high. Fertilizer was applied simultaneously. Wheat and barley varieties giving yields of up to 60 quintals per hectare are being sown on large areas. The farmers have pledged at least 1.45 million tons of grain. The mass sowing of sugar beets, cotton, corn, vegetables and melons is underway. (1430 GMT)

22 April

The crop growers of Azerbaijan have completed the sowing of cotton. The sowing of cotton in the republic has been carried in the most optimal time limits, and all work was notable for its high quality. In the country as a whole, the sowing of cotton is taking place in complex weather conditions. Rains and sharp variations in temperature are making the sowing more difficult. Nevertheless, it has been carried out as of today on 2,713,000 hectares. This is more than was sown within the same time limits in past years. The plan for the sowing of fine fiber cotton has already been fulfilled. At present, sowing is continuing in the northern areas of Kirgizia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Shoots have been obtained on 1 million hectares. Interrow tilling of the plantations has begun. (2200 GMT)

FURTHER ON DEVELOPMENTS OF POPOV, RYUMIN SPACEFLIGHT

Condition of Cosmonauts

LD201222 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Cosmonauts Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin are continuing their flight aboard the orbital research complex Salyut-6/Soyuz-35/Progress-8. As always, their day began at 0800 today. Their program includes physical exercises and the checking of on-board systems. Time for the crew to rest is on the program on Sundays as a rule. But the cosmonauts often spend this time carrying out visual observations of the earth's surface as part of the program of environmental studies. Reports from orbit indicate that all is in order aboard the complex. Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin feel well.

Progress of Studies, Experiments

LD221510 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] Mission Control Center, April 22, TASS--Today is the fourteenth day of Soviet Cosmonauts Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin at the Salyut-6 orbital research station.

At the same time with preventive check-ups the crew is continuing to prepare research equipment for planned research and experiments. Today, the cosmonauts will reload and test the Yelena small gamma-ray telescope and will replace autonomous power supply units of some of the devices and apparatus.

The study of the natural resources of the earth and the environment features prominently on the mission programme. Following a request of oceanology, forestry and agricultural experts, the crew is conducting visual observations of the earth's surface and the area of the world ocean.

The cosmonauts have conducted a technological experiment in space materials study on the Kristall installation. The aim of the experiment was to obtain semi-conducting material--indium arsenide at zero-gravity.

The crew is about to finish unloading of the Progress-8 transport spacecraft linked up with the station. After carrying through preparatory operations the cosmonauts have refueled the joint propulsion plant. In the next two days it is planned to refuel the station with oxidiser.

According to telemetric data and crew reports the on-board systems of the station and both spacecraft are functioning normally.

Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin feel well.

BRIEFS

ANTARCTIC SHIPPING--The rescue vessel Dozornyy of the Vostokrybkholodflot Administration is conducting fleet observations in the Antarctic area. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0710 GMT 18 Apr 80 OW]